# the Link

**Concordia's Independent Newspaper**
Tuesday, December 6, 1994 Volume 15, Number 22
Concordia University Montreal, Quebec

cover by Michelle Loubert

# AGENDA

**The Agenda is a free service to publicize events of interest to the Concordia community. Priority is given to non-profit and student groups. Drop off your info at our office, room H-649 in the Hall building, or mail it, to *the Link*–Agenda. Deadlines are 4pm, Friday for Tuesday issues, and 4 pm Wednesday for Friday issues.**

## COMMEMORATIVE EVENTS

### Tuesday, December 6

**March of Rage and Mourning,** a public demonstration to protest anti-woman and anti-feminist violence. Bring candles and placards. Gather between 4:30 & 5:30 in H-110. March along de Maisonneuve to UQAM. All Women Welcome. Info: 848-7431.

**Day of Remembrance and Action** on violence against women at the Women's Y. Panel discussion & information tables.10:30 am to 1 pm, 1355 René Lévesque West. Free admission & refreshments.

***Reclaiming the Virago:*** A Night of Women'sPoetry, Music, Performance & Art in commemoration of the lives of the 14 women murdered at the Ecole Polytechnique on December 6, 1989. Featuring: Fitzraven Sky, Seven Babes Bare All, Jeannie Riddle & Jackie & Yasmin Noori and others. 8 pm, H-767. All women welcome.

### Thursday, December 8

**"Salvadorian Women Resisting Violence,"** a lecture by Ana Cisneros, feminist activist and co-ordinator of the *Secretariat National des Femmes du Front Farabundo Marti de Liberation Nationale.* 12 noon, 2170 Bishop, Basement Lounge.

### Sunday, December 11

**Choeur Maha, Montreal's** 30-woman strong choir and performance group, presents a Concert to commemorate the 5th Anniversary of the massacre at Ecole Polytechnique. 8 pm, Erskime American Church, corner Sherbrooke W & Ave du Musée. Information & tickets: 522-3315.

### Monday, December 12

**"For the Defence of Human Rights:** The fight against the violation of women's rights in Algeria," a panel discussion. 12:30 pm, UQAM, Pavillion des sciences de la gestion, 315 Ste-Catherine E, Salle 110. Info: 848-2372.

## WOMEN

**The Montréal Assault Prevention** Centre offers a self-defense course called ACTION for women. Each course provides verbal and physical techniques to help women deal with any type of aggression. To register call: 284-1212.

**SOS Violence conjugale** 24 hour crisis intervention a shelter referral. 873-9010.

**How do I Look?** Women's Film, video and sound festival is now accepting submissions. Drop off entries at BR-314 or Cafe X. Deadline: Dec. 23. Info: 278-8266, 495-1014.

**Mouvement contre le viol:** 842-5040.

**24 Hour Hotline** & Crisis Line, Montreal Sexual Assault Centre, 934-4504.

**Self-Help Groups** meet weekly dealing with incest, destructive personal relationships, sexual identity etc. Info: 866-9941, ext. 293.

**Concordia Women's Centre** provides a lounge area for women in the University Community, referral and support, information and community notice boards. 2020 Mackay, downstairs. 848-7431.

**Centre des femmes** de Montréal: Services de première ligne, 842-4780; Service aux femmes immigrantes, 842-0814; Option'Elle, 842-6652; Formation'Elle, 842-4776.

**Montreal Sexual Assault Centre** provides free counselling and emotional support, medical assessment and treatment, information on police and court procedures, court accompaniment, support groups for survivors and public education on sexual assault issues. Info: 934-4504.

**Literacy Centre.** Anglophone women aged 16 and older who need help learning to read and write should contact the Women's Y. Personal tutoring services are free and based on each student's special needs. For more information, to volunteer or refer someone, call 866-9941, ext. 278.

**Montreal Sexual Assault Centre** needs volunteers for its 24 hour telephone crisis line. Concerned, bilingual women should call 934-4504, 934-9354.

**Jeunes Avec Toit** offers shared, inexpensive accommodation for young women (18-30) in need of shelter who wish to upgrade their job or life skills. Referral services, individual support, life skills programs. Info: Doreen or Mary Denis, 769-0855.

**Centre for AIDS** Services for Women needs volunteers. Info: 954-0170, Basia.

**TAMS–Support for Teenage mothers:** food bank, day care, group activities and weekly meetings. Info: 866-9941, ext. 314.

**Nice Jewish Girls:** Jewish, lesbian/bisexual and interested in being part of a discussion and/or spiritual/social/activist group? Info: 848-7431.

**The Concordia** Student Safety Patrol needs female volunteers! If you have an extra 6 hours/month, please sign up. 848-8700.

**Need Experience** with Pre-schoolers or multiculturalism? Parenthèse is a unique playgroup for immigrant moms and their children and is looking for volunteers. Tues. or Thurs. 1-4:15 pm. Info: Cyndy, 934-0354, ext. 354.

**YWCA's Active** Listening and Referral Service needs volunteers to lend an empathetic ear to women in need. Fridays 10 am to 6 pm. Fifteen hour training course required. Info: Lynda Tétrault, 866-9941, ext. 293.

**Women's Employment Counselling** at the "Y" helps women to seek employment, return to work or explore their interests and aptitudes. Eng. & Fr. Free. Info: 866-9941.

**Reading Circle/Group** to explore poetry, fiction, prose etc. by women from a diversity of ethnic backgrounds. Interested? Leave message for Monda at 848-7431.

**Big Gals & Goddesses,** wanna talk? A discussion group for big women - the ones who wear dresses and the ones who wear overalls, is starting soon. For info, call the Women's Centre: 848-7431.

## ACADEMIC

**Term Papers** and written assignments? We can help you get started, organize ideas, identify problem areas. Counselling & Development: 848-3545.

**Free tutoring** available to students who fail the University Writing test. Info: 848-2320.

## PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT

**Want to talk?** We can help you with your personal, educational and vocational concerns.Confidentiality is ensured. Info: Counselling and Development: 848-3545, 3555.

**Sign-language courses** at the Montreal Deaf Community Centre. Placement tests are required. 65 de Castelnau. Info: TTY: 279-8535.

**Peer Helpers** is a free, confidential listening service of students helping students. 2090 Mackay St. Info: 848-2859.

**Mother Hubbard's Cupboard,** a resource group for students trying to make ends meet. Info: Peer Helpers, 848-2859.

**Meditation: A Tool** For Self-Knowledge. These sessions will draw upon various traditions and each will include a "quiet sitting." Wednesdays 12 - 1 pm, Thursdays 4:15 - 5:15 pm, Annex Z. Info: Campus Ministry, Daryl Ross, 848-3585.

**Adult Children of Dysfunctional Families** group meets Fridays from 7 to 9 pm at the YWCA, corner Réné Lévesque and Crescent. Info: 843-5257.

**Questioning your sexual orientation?** Coming Out support group, confidential and friendly atmosphere. Men's Group: Wednesdays, 7:30 pm, 2090 Mackay, Room 02. Women's Group: TBA. For information or individual support call the Peer Helper Centre, 848-2859.

**Sign up now** for workshops on communication skills, career & life planning, building relationships, study skills, loss and grieving support groups etc. For information, call Counselling & Development, 848-3545/3555.

## HEALTH

**Non-Nominal HIV Testing.** The request for the test as well as the result are known only to your doctor. Info: Health Services, 848-3565, 848-3575.

**Birth Control Workshops** to explore options for men and women. Mondays at 12 noon, 2155 Guy, Rm. 407; Wednesdays at 12 noon, 6935 Sherbrooke W, Room 101. To register, call Health Services, 848-3565/3575.

**Attention Athletic Types!** Dawson Community Centre's Young Adults Program featuring a free games room and scheduled sports activities. info: Peter or Jennifer, 767-9967.

## GENERAL

**Spirit of Christmas** Fund Drive is the sole source of funds for Campus Ministry's Emergency Food Voucher Program. Donations are current being accepted. Information: 848-3588.

**Prison Visit Program:** An eight-week program each semester, in which students visit inmates at Archambault Prison. Volunteers must meet with a chaplain ahead of time. Info: Peter Coté, 848-3586.

**Food Basket Drive:** Please donate non-perishable food items to Caribbean Students Union, H-508-1, African Students' Association, H-608-2 or Dean of Students Office, AD-121 or H-653. Collection ends Dec. 18.

**Volunteers needed** to help provide services for disabled students. Info: 848-3525 (voice and TDD), Disabled Students' Services.

**The NDG Anti-Poverty Group** needs computer donations (286 mg. or better) and donations of office equipment & supplies. Info: 489-3548.

**Yellow Door Elderly Project** needs volunteers to accompany seniors to appointments. Info: Carolee or Leigh Ann: 398-6243.

**Compeer Montreal,** a community service which provides friendship and support to people with mental health problems, is recruiting volunteers 18 years or older to provide re-integration services to persons with mental illnesses. Info: 489-1007.

**Outreach Experience:** participants will work with children, teens, the poor or the sick. The activity and amount of time will depend on your interests and abilities. Information: Michelina Bertone SSA, 848-3591.

**Les Ateliers des Mélomanes**–13 different themes on the music business, filmed on location and rebroadcast on CUTV. Every Sunday, 4 pm, 235 Sherbrooke W, Studio 110. Info: 990-5209.

## STUDENT CLUBS

**Young Liberals** of Concordia welcome anyone who wishes to become a member. Info: 769-5432.

**The Brick Theatre Group** welcomes dynamic, spontaneous people interested in performance, recitation, dissection of plays. Weekly meetings will be scheduled soon. Leave message at Concordia Students' Union, 848-7474

**Concordia Undergraduate History** Students' Association is back in business. Call or drop by our office, CH-222. Info: 848-7463.

**Caribbean Students Union** is looking for new members. All welcome. Info: H-508-1; 848-3527.

**Concordia Irish** Society meets every Tuesday at 8 pm, P-103. info: 848-7411.

**Debating Meetings** Wednesday, 7 pm and Friday, 2 pm, H-937.

**Concordia Queer Collective** holds weekly meetings on Fridays at 5:30 pm in P-102. Information: 848-7414.

**Latin American Students Organization** invites all students interested in joining to visit their offices. 2010 Mackay, Rm. 02. Info: 848-3532.

**Concordia Writers' Group** meets every Thursday, 3:30, HB-301. Info: Bill, 684-3502.

**International Socialists** Students' Association meets every Wednesday at 7:30 pm, in H-771. Join our weekly political discussions. Information about meetings, actions or membership: 521-1983.

***Czesc!!!*** Polish students' association is looking for new members. Info: Joanna, 486-5179.

**Ham Radio Meetings** every Tuesday. Personal two-way radio, television, UHF/VHF, satellite and computer communications by ham radio. All Welcome. 7 to 9 pm, H-644-1. Info: 848-7474.

**Brasilian students** interested in forming a student association, call Edna, Prado: 845-9322 or Adriana: 735-0133.


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**Rates: 20¢ per word for Concordia Arts & Science and Fine Arts undergraduate students; 25¢ per word for all others (plus applicable taxes). Deadlines are 4pm Friday for Tuesday issues, 4pm Wednesday for Friday issues. Classified advertising must be purchased in our offices in room H-649. Hours: Mon-Fri, 10am-5pm. Ads must be accompanied by full payment. We do NOT take classified ads by phone, fax, or mail.**

## TYPING

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## FOR SALE

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**Moving Sale:** must sell everything! Furniture, bicycle, appliances. Great deals. 596-0726.

**For Sale:** sofa set; bicycles, dining sets, study desk chair, dresser, camp cot, cutlass Siera 86, baby car seats. 695-0164.

## LESSONS

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**Math tutor:** 989-7180

## APARTMENTS

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**Beautiful 4 1/2** near Loyola, equipped, fridge & stove. Available February, $395, 486-4077 or 462-9370.

**Sublet: Large** 4 1/2 facing Ste-Catherine & St-Marc. 2 balconies. $610. Heated. 933-4984.

**Downtown 3 1/2** sublet, April 1st. Pool, sauna, balcony, mountain view. $588/month, heating included. 849-7980, 484-4792, 485-1424.

**Large 4 1/2** to sublet, Jan. 1st to June, $600. Heat and hot water incl., hardwood floors, Guy Metro. 933-2511.

**Apartment for** rent: clean, 10 minute walk from Loyola. Quiet home. January 1 to March 31, 1995. Everything is paid. Call 483-4572.

## TRAVEL

**Cuba Brigade:** Join International Youth Brigade. 2 weeks. Jan 6 to 20. See first-hand revolutionary life in Cuba. Info: 284-7369.

**Spring Break** 95. Daytona Beach or Orlando. February 18 to 26 or February 25 to March 5. From $289, quadruple occupancy. Including transport in videocoach, hotel, taxes, representative etc. Book early, Save big. Pat, 354-3630. Limited seats. Hotel only available.

**Florida: Daytona/** Miami Beach. December 26 to January 3. From $359, quadruple. Including: transport in videocoach, hotel or beach, representative. New York - Christmas/New Year's. From $139 quadruple. Transport, hotel, sightseeing. Pat, 354-3630. Limited seats.

## WANTED

**Ride to** Parris Island, SC(United States Marine Corps Recruit Depot) needed, December 23th. Will share gas expenses. Danny, 365-2526.

**Grad student** is seeking women who are bulimic, or who have experienced bulimia in the past, to share their story for research. Anonymity guaranteed. Please call Francine, 288-3323.

**Zeitgeist sought.** Easy descent magazine seek$ sparking submissions for winter issue. Fiction, poetry, visual arts. Send stuff to: Easy Descent, C.O.P. Jeanne Mance, CP 42046, Montreal, Quebec, H2W 2T3

## HELP WANTED

**The Eat** Your Peel Student Food Co-op is in the process of opening and operating a storefront on campus. We are looking for an individual to recruit, coordinate and orient BoD & volunteers, assist the Board with negotiations, incorporation, constitution, space rental, etc. Must have experience in management and volunteer coordination, leadership ability, communication skills, knowledge of the food industry and a commitment to social change. Apply with C.V. before Dec. 15th to: Eat Your Peel, Hiring Committee, 2130 Mackay St., Montreal, H3G 2J1.

## GENERAL

**Graduate Student** get-togethers with the Dean of the School of Graduate Studies. Dean Martin Kusy would like to meet with graduate students this year on an informal basis. Sessions have been arranged for this purpose from 5:30 pm to 7:00 pm at our Graduate Administration Offices, 2145 Mackay Street, on the following dates: Second Semester: Tuesday, January 31, 1995; Monday, February 13, 1995. Our space is limited. Please reserve one of the above dates by contacting Ms. Kali Sakell at 848-3803. We look forward to seeing you.


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# Faculty file grievance against administration

by Jennifer Ditchburn

Concordia's administration violated its collective agreement with faculty when it cut down the number of sabbaticals granted to professors, according to faculty association executives.

Citing financial constraints, interim vice-rector academic Robert Parker informed faculty that departments must reduce the number of academic leaves they grant professors each year.

Currently, about ten per cent of faculty ask for sabbatical time each year. The administration has asked that the percentage be lowered to six per cent in accordance with Quebec University norms.

Concordia's faculty association (CUFA) responded to the decision with a grievance, criticizing the administration for not consulting with faculty on an issue which directly affected them.

"They (administration) seem to want to change a negotiated arrangement and substitute it with whatever they see fit," said Harvey Shulman, vice-president of CUFA.

Sabbaticals, as described in the faculty's collective agreement, are either six months or a year in duration, and are granted to allow faculty to improve their skills, work on research or publications, and/or renew their course content. Professors with tenure receive 85 per cent of their salary while on sabbatical, in addition to any travel expenses.

Faculty members were shocked to hear that the number of sabbaticals were to be reduced. In the Arts and Science faculty alone, 25 professors were turned down for sabbaticals as a result of the decision.

CUFA president William Knitter says the action was in violation of the collective agreement because sabbaticals are a joint responsibility between faculty and administration. He questions the university's reasons for cutting sabbaticals, since no supporting documents on the financial advantages of the decision were offered.

"Their management style is objectionable because they refused to work with the deans, departmental chairs and faculty to change sabbaticals together—with the goal of saving the most money," Knitter added.

According to CUFA, the amount of money the university is saving by cutting down on sabbaticals is negligible. When a professor leaves, his or her most important courses are taught by part-time faculty (who usually only earn $5,000 per three-credit course.) Other courses may be cancelled for the duration of the professors absence.

"The rector (Charles Bertrand) says we've got more belt tightening to do. But I feel if we have problems to solve we have to do it together," Knitter said. "He is setting the worst tone, in a managerial sense, by heading into this saying 'we're making this decision alone, we're not including you.'"

Concordia's administration has been widely criticized this year for decisions which students and staff believe were injustly unilateral.

Last month, the administration announced they would be closing the student residences. And more recently, faculty members have denounced the administration for an inflated senior salaries policy, decided upon by a secret committee of the board of governors.

"Faculty is seen as selfish, but for a university in financial difficulty, we're spending far to much on egregious things, such as administrative expenditures, lawyer's fees, and hiring," Shulman said. "Senior salaries are generous to administrators returning to teaching, but less than generous for sabbaticals."

Although CUFA says it was never consulted regarding this issue, vice-rector academic Parker says he had in fact discussed the changes with the deans and some faculty members.

The faculty association is hoping that the university will respond to the grievance, and that it will pass directly to arbitration. If not, CUFA is prepared to take legal action against Concordia for violating their collective agreement. Shulman said Concordia would most likely spend more money on lawyer's fees to fight CUFA than if they kept sabbaticals intact.

"We have no doubt they will lose this on legal grounds," Shulman added.

# Axworthy discussion a "waste of time"

by Bruce Rolston

TORONTO (CUP)—Students who met with the federal cabinet minister responsible for post-secondary education last week say the meeting was a waste of time.

"It was a farce, pretty disastrous, totally a failure on their part," said Mike D'Angelo, Ryerson Polytechnical University student president.

Ontario and Quebec student council leaders met in Ottawa last week with Lloyd Axworthy, the federal Minister for Human Resources to discuss proposed cuts to post-secondary education funding.

Those who accepted Axworthy's invitation said they hoped to talk with him about his proposals to cut more than $2 billion from federal subsidies for Canada's universities and colleges.

But student representatives from Ryerson and the University of Toronto said Axworthy was unwilling to listen to their concerns.

Axworthy arrived unprepared for the hour-and-a-half he set aside for the 30 student leaders who attended the Ottawa meeting, those present said.

"He walked in late, he had to borrow a piece of paper from a student to write things down on—I think it really got off to a bad start," said Greg Thomas of the Ryerson student union.

What Axworthy had to say didn't impress the students either. D'Angelo said he characterized students who opposed his proposals as cruel and selfish.

"The guy was totally obnoxious. He was saying, 'Do you want lower tuition and a million starving children in Canada?'"

"He was saying, 'Why should 80 per cent of Canadians fund this small group who will be privileged for the rest of their lives?'" said Gareth Spanglett, U of T student council president.

The 30 students present were able to only ask four questions of the minister before he left, D'Angelo said. Axworthy's lateness, combined with the need to translate his opening remarks into French, took up the rest of the time.

D'Angelo added that Axworthy said nothing they didn't know already. Axworthy could not even answer the questions he was asked.

For instance, he could not say whether a proposed new student loan program that would use income-contingent repayment would replace, or be in addition to, the current federal loans program.

D'Angelo, whose plane ticket was paid for by the government, said the whole meeting was a waste.

"The government just wasted a ton of money and nothing was accomplished whatsoever. Nothing came out of it, but now the students there are really mad."

Canadian Federation of Students chair Guy Caron said Axworthy is past the point of hearing criticism of the cuts.

"He's not trying to consult. He's trying to defend his point. He's not open."

Spanglett said he is becoming less hopeful about reversing even some of the government proposals.

"It's so disturbing. There's these massive cuts with no information, no feasibility studies. And there seems to be very, very little room for official flexibility."

Spanglett is now trying to get to speak before a House of Commons committee that is holding hearings on the Axworthy proposals this month.

When the committee was in Vancouver on Nov. 15, five student council leaders from local colleges and universities—including the University of British Columbia and the University of Victoria—asked to speak, but none were given permission.

Thomas said he was surprised that Axworthy, who he thought to be a progressive thinker, seemed to have no sympathy for students.

"He seemed to come from a really progressive background, and had really left-wing policies in the past," Thomas said. "Now he seems genuinely confused about why we're opposing this."

Axworthy's proposed cuts, announced last month, would cut federal cash transfers to the provinces to support colleges and universities.

Some of the money saved would be devoted to a new student loan program using the principle of income-contingent repayment, which would allow students to waive payment of part of their loans if they do not get jobs.

Axworthy has said the provinces, not Ottawa, will be able to choose whether to pass the cuts onto students by charging higher tuition, or not. But he has also conceded that tuition could rise as a result by up to $2,000 a year.

# Israel headed towards peace

by Danny Chan

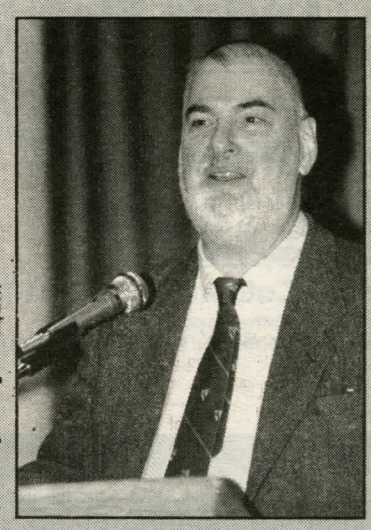

photo by Georges Paquin

The main threat to long-term peace in Israel lies not with the Palestinians but with other emerging powers in the Middle East, says a leader of Canada's Jewish community.

"Rabin is concerned with states like Iran, which is developing nuclear capacity," said Frederick Krantz. "And Iraq will soon be exporting oil. The French, the British, and the Russians have very real economic interests in seeing Iraqis export their oil again."

Krantz, director of the Canadian Institute for Jewish Research and History professor at Concordia University, told a conference at the Emanu-El-Beth Shalom Temple in Montreal last Sunday that peace in the Middle East can only be achieved if Middle East powers cooperate.

According to Krantz, the Israel-Jordan Peace Treaty and current Syrian-Israeli negotiations, along with last year's Declaration of Principles, can spell a peaceful era for Jews in Israel.

Krantz said Jews should be content with these recent peace treaties because Arab states are re-establishing relations with Israel, and the country's current relations with its neighbours are at its best since their 1948 founding.

Highlighted by last year's Declaration of Principles, U.S. president Bill Clinton's pro-Isreali stance is conducive to peace in the region, said Krantz.

But he admits that peace is not yet assured.

"So the peace process is very hopeful if the Syrian thing falls into place, if (PLO leader Yasser) Arafat can compose himself with regards to Gaza, if we can move to elections in the territories, and if some resolution can be arrived at that is acceptable to the settlers of the Golan Heights territories," said Krantz.

He is also worried that the Republican resurgence in the Senate and in the House of Representatives in last month's American elections could jeopardize the current peace process.

Krantz noted Senate Republican foreign-policy leader Jesse Helms' labelling of the peace process as a "fraud," and cited claims that Syria wants U.S. dollars and not real peace.

Krantz also talked about the role of Judaism in Israel's future.

He mentioned a shift in Israelis' lifestyles, with the country becoming increasingly Westernized. He also said an increasing number of Israelis are identifying themselves first as Israelis and then as Jews.

"What are we going to be? Are we going to be a Jewish state or are we going to be a progressive, pluralistic democracy?" said Krantz.

He dismissed the diaspora—the idea that Jewish communities dispersed throughout the world are waiting to return to Israel—as an unlikely method of repopulating the country.

"We are not in exile. There is no diaspora. There are just Jews living here in Canada or in the United States. For instance, I can be a (more devout) Jew in Providence, Rhode Island than I can be in Jerusalem," said Krantz.

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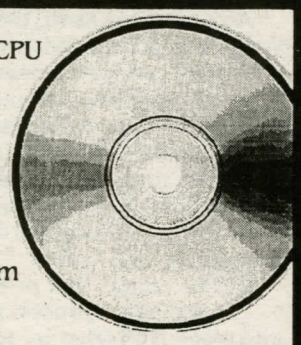

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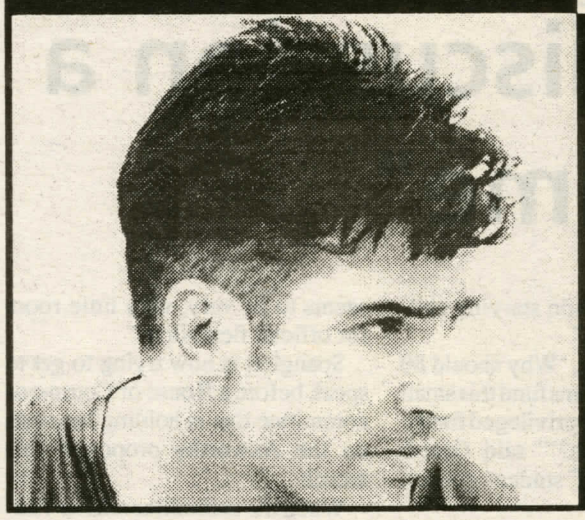

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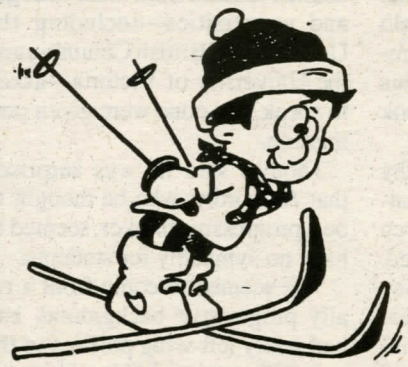

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# Linking biology to sexual orientaion: the politics of understanding homosexuality

photo by Julien Saucier

by Paul Hainsworth

Sexual attraction—to the same sex or to the opposite—sparks continuous debate amongst scientists and laypeople alike about the importance and value of linking sexual preference to genes.

The findings last month of McMaster University researcher Sandra Witelson are only the latest in a growing body of scientific data seeking to demonstrate that genes lie at the root of homosexuality.

Laboratory research in the past ten years, still in its infancy, provides strong evidence that, though no specific conclusions may be drawn yet, there are at least some biological factors contributing to sexual orientation. But, so far, there is little consensus in either the scientific or gay communities when it comes to questions of what will be done with this information, of what the implications of it are, of who is responsible for the effects of this research, and even of why it's being done.

### Biology vs environment

Witelson's research found that there was, between homosexuals and heterosexuals, a size difference in the isthmus of the corpus callosum, the passageway running between the right and left sides of the brain. She, along with colleagues at her university and researchers at the Sunnybrook Health Science Centre in Toronto, scanned the brains of 10 heterosexual and 11 homosexual men, and found that isthmus in gay men was 13 percent thicker than in heterosexual men. But some gay men possessed a thinner isthmus than did heterosexual men.

The idea that biology plays a role "clearly does not mean that environment is irrelevant, but what it means is that environment is not the whole story," Witelson said at an annual meeting of the Society for Neuroscience in Miami Beach, Florida.

But it's not clear whether the brain differences found so far
really influence sexual orientation; they may even be results
of it.

Last year there was a furor of controversy over the findings of Dean Namer, a molecular geneticist at the National Institute of Health in Bethesada, Maryland. Hamer claimed to have discovered a region of the X chromosome that was shared by gay brothers. Hamer suggested the region — called Xq28 — might have some link to sexual orientation.

While the discovery of a 'gay gene' is a long way off, supporters of this kind of research say it could help society accept homosexuality. In an interview last summer with **Out**, a queer magazine, Hamer said, "It challenges those who say it's a choice."

### Casting homosexuality as a genetic defect

But there are two sides to the argument. While some say that proof of a 'gay gene' will put to rest arguments of the extreme right that homosexuality represents an immoral lifestyle, others say that the research will be used to show that homosexuality is a genetic defect.

*This raises the possibility of genetic engineering, If fetuses could be tested, it raises the specter of testing for sexual orientation.*
*—Alex McKay*

"The problem (with the first argument) is it doesn't look at history and how ideas of biological determinism have been used against people," says Jean-Francois Monette, a Montreal filmmaker who is working on a documentary on the issue. Called 'Hyping the Hypothalamus,' the film, scheduled for release through the National Film Board early next year, looks at biological and genetic research into the causes of homosexuality and the impact of this work.

Monette points to Nazi Germany during World War II, where genetic research was used to "prove" that Jews and homosexuals were genetically defective, impure, and should be eliminated.

Many also fear that pinpointing a gay gene or genes could lead to the development of a prenatal test for homosexuality.

"This raises the possibility of genetic engineering," said Alex McKay, research coordinator at the Sex Information and Education Council of Canada (SIECCON). "If fetuses could be tested, it raises the specter of testing for sexual orientation." This would ultimately give parents the choice of aborting a homosexual fetus.

The problem of prenatal testing is already a reality in some countries. In China, parents are financially penalized for having more than one child. And since male children in China are preferred over females, the abortion of female fetuses skyrocketed after a test for the sex of the fetus was developed. It was only last month that the government banned prenatal testing for sex.

### A tool for discrimination

Others argue that the discovery of a biological link to sexual orientation could lead to other forms of discrimination. "They'll say that it's a disease, that when you're gay you're sick, like a cancer," says Marie-Andrée Lemay, who is also the director of communications for Le Centre de Gaies et Lesbiennes. "There's also the danger of employers testing you for a job. All employers could make tests obligatory."

*The problem is it doesn't look at history and how ideas of biological determinism have been used against people*
*—Jean-Francois Monette*

While both the scientific and gay communities agree that genetic research could be used negatively, it is more difficult to determine who is responsible for the findings of science and their consequences upon society.

"The first responsibility (of scientists) is to do outstanding science," said Francis Rolleston, director of innovation teams at the Medical Research Council, which funds Canadian medical research, health sciences and bio-medicine. For Rolleston, part of that means waiting until a significant sample is taken before drawing conclusions.

According to Rolleston, scientists should be responsible for what they discover. "Scientists are calling for strong regulatory requirements," he said. "They want guidelines there to know how to proceed and [to know] how [results] can be used."

McKay of SIECCON doesn't think that the responsibility for scientific discovery lays solely in the hands of the scientific community. "They have an ethical responsibility to let their findings be known no matter what they are. This is a question of ethics for society at large," he said.

For Monette too, preventing ill-use of genetic research is the general public's responsibility "We have to be extremely vigilant with what is done with the end result," said Monette.

### Education as priority

Regardless of what biological links to homosexuality are discovered, some believe that discrimination will not end whether homosexuality is biologically determined or not. For James Edwards, former external coordinator at the Concordia Queer Collective, ending discrimination against queers can't come through science.

"The path to elimination of discrimination is through education. Some will discriminate because they ignore or are ignorant of the knowledge that we're the same as everyone else," he said.

Lemay of Le Centre de Gaies et Lesbiennes wonders why its useful to study sexual attraction in the first place.

She is indignant that people question why people are homosexual. "It's natural to be gay," she said. "Why are people straight? We never ask."

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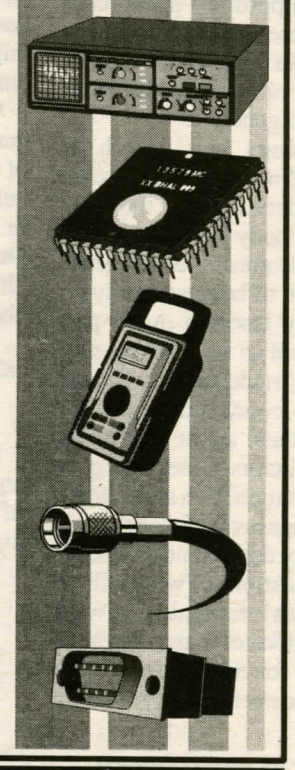

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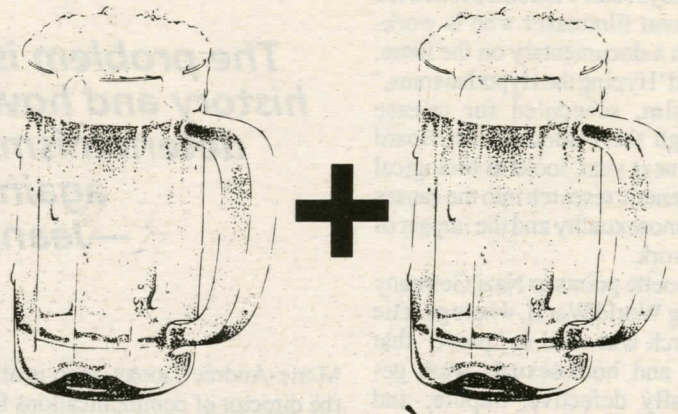

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## Everyone's Best Interests

In response to I.W. Matthews Nov. 29th letter, it is clear to me that this person is completely ignorant. Matthews criticizes the *Link's* Human Rights issue by falsely stating that it has nothing to do with Canada's foreign policy. "If the issue of human rights is sucked into the picture, Canada's best interests will become distorted and forgotten," he writes. This statement shows that Matthews has not been reading the articles. In a previous issue of the *Link*, a news article detailed Ed Broadbent's statements about Canadians having a vested interest in human rights, with reasons why it SHOULD be a part of our foreign policy. It costs the Canadian public much more after a war has started rather than spending on prevention.

In addition, Matthews seems to have no concept of human greed nor of genocide. In his letter, he criticizes the Canadian public for condemning Indonesia. "With the state of our economy such as it is how can we protest the possibility of a beneficial deal with Indonesia?" he writes. I would like to know what the benefits are for Canada in condoning genocide, while at the same time allowing companies here to put more people out of work while taking advantage of abominable labour standards in other countries.

In a statement of pure ignorance, Matthews tries to compare Indonesia with Canada's treatment of her aboriginals , "they (the Indonesian government) might judge us just as harshly and with no less validity." I don't see any evidence in Canada of a genocide program to eliminate all aboriginals. It is ethically wrong for a democratic country like Canada not to condemn countries that try to get away with pogroms. Matthews obviously needs to look up this word in the dictionary.

Finally, to add insult to injury, he adds, "If a beneficial deal with an Asian Tier results in bloodshed and wide-spread suffering, well so be it." This is a fascist attitude that shows zero compassion, zero understanding, and zero knowledge of the kinds of suffering that people live with during war. Hitler had a similar attitude towards many minorities to eliminate people for the greedy benefit of a population of Nazis. Matthews believes that Canadians, such as himself, deserve to live in wealth while people who live in other countries deserve to be treated like savages for the benefit of Canadians. Maybe someone should simulate rape and torture upon Matthews just to give him a small idea of what people go through in countries where human rights are ignored.

*Anonymous*

## Moral Justice

I read with interest the letter from I.W. Matthews. Matthews assures us that foreign affairs and human rights should not be linked policies; a "truth" apparently.

Foreign relations serve our "national interests" (making money) which should not "become distorted or forgotten" by human rights, which serve a vaguely defined but apparently unimportant "geographical purposes" (??). I would argue that the link between "interests" and human rights is not as opaque as Matthews would have us believe. The dictator frightens his own population into submission so that he can stuff his pockets unhindered, and at the expense of his own people. Thus, if Canada's External Affairs department chooses to pay off these bullies for their dirty deeds, then it *is* partly responsible for human rights abuses.

But Matthews argues that seeking moral justice can only be construed as "ignorance, stupidity and passion." We should not be concerned with any "transient...values" ("passion" I suppose) that might get in the way of making money.

By Matthews' own logic it would have been appropriate for us to do business with the Nazis if this served our "interests." Why? Because these cultures "judge situations or resolve conflicts in ways different from ours" and it would be "sanctimonious" of us to impose our standards on them. Doubtless the dictator has different values than I, but can we also infer that the values of the oppressed render oppression acceptable to them? Did the Jews, having "different" but "not better" standards than we, choose and accept their own extermination? That the tortured and murdered are somehow willing to sacrifice themselves in the name of "progress" making it acceptable for us to 'reap benefits' while they pay the 'cost' with their lives, seems a very dubious and far fetched assumption. The oppressed don't have the freedom to choose whether or not to be in the sights of guns that we manufacture and sell to tyrants. Confounding libertarianism with ethnocentrism in the name of "interests" is absurd.

As to the observations about psychology, no doubt Matthews' human nature is "fickle and self-serving," but I resist the notion that this applies to the rest of us. The pre-scientific dogma concerning human callousness often conceals apologetics for heinous crimes.

The ideas expressed by Matthews are the foundations of colonialism and imperialism. It is correct to be disgusted by such illogical logic. However, let us prove our dignity by continuing to work for a just world.

*P. Soucy*
*Arts*

## Guilty until proven

"Those who will sacrifice a little freedom for more security neither deserve either and will lose both."
Benjamin Franklin

I am a Canadian citizen in a constitutional monarchy with a liberal democratic government. One of the major pillars in our system is the rule of law. This holds that one is innocent until proven guilty. Concordia has reversed this rule. A person is considered to be a non student while boarding the shuttle bus without being found guilty of any crime. The administration holds that because other non-members use our bus they force us to show ID. Thus we have all been convicted with a trial.

The administration wishes us to believe that the bus is used by people outside the university. Yet do not other students use our library? This is beside the point. The administration has yet to furnish any proof beyond the allegation of impropriety in the misuse of the shuttle bus. If everyone knows of misuse then why did they not report them to the driver? The lack of moral fortitude in these people signifies that I must surrender my right of privacy to the administration! I think not.

Even the administration knows that they have instituted a new regulation. The posted signs started with the phrase "As of October..." Why did they start this curious way if the administration had always had this power? The administration knew that it was expanding their power from a regulation instated for security purposes only. It was not for a crack down on the students right to privacy.

Finally, there seems to be the idea that I should write letters of only global importance, as if a letter to the Serbs would stop their bloodshed. Marshall McLuhn wrote that we should "think Global but act locally." I am acting locally. I have compared Concordia's student back to the greatest tragedy in human history, where people also blindly followed the illegal authority of the administration. The Jews of Europe tragically died for nothing if we have not learned their lesson. Authority must be controlled by the will of the people not blindly followed. Unfortunately, here at Concordia, we have not learned that lesson.

*Robert Fortin.*

P.S. Does there really exist a Rector? For he has not replied to any of my letters. Either he is not getting letters through internal mail or he is being rude.

## McLeod vs. Women's Centre

The resemblance is not obvious at first. What, after all, may Elena McLeod and the Women's Centre coterie of ideologues (see the letters regarding the notorious Mark Rollins affair published in the *Link* and the *Concordian*) be thought to have in common? Elena McLeod fancies herself a writer, possessed of an unusual share of acumen and wit, and able to draw humour and instruction from the otherwise mundane incidents of her life. The proactive and outspoken cabal which pronounces on behalf of the Women's Centre, on the other hand, is ideologically bound to humourlessness and has little time for trifles in light of the ever-weightier oppression it must contend with every day. If you ignore that both are women, as I believe you should, then few, if any, affinities seem to present themselves.

And were it not for the proverb about appearances being deceptive, we might be content to accept the differences between these two species of university courtier. But the proverb warns against such facile conclusions and we look closer for some unnoticed similarity, some shared assumption which binds Elena McLeod and the Women's Centre league. Reading their statements over again, we notice a remarkable resemblance, a likeness made all the more astounding because it is couched in supposed difference.

"There I was," writes Elena McLeod, "strutting along, with my head held high...thinking every guy wanted me." The sentence is delivered in a self-congratulatory, almost gleeful tone. Never one to be coy, Ms. McLeod tells us how she reveled in the male gaze. Elena McLeod sees her unique view of the event as an occasion to write a newspaper column; the Women's Centre sisterhood sees their unique view of similar events as an occasion to rewrite Canadian law and University codes of conduct.

Both are self-absorbed and oppressively self-important. What's more, both are incapable of extending any sympathy or understanding to those who live outside their small, and all too tiresome little worlds. So, the Women's Centre demands justice from an extremely narrow viewpoint, its own. While Elena McLeod tries to say something humorous or critical about the life of her peers; in vain, however, for she never manages that literary slight of hand which permits a talented writer to elide over the divide separating her experience from everyone else's. Ultimately, Elena McLeod's column is about nothing more than, well, Elena McLeod. Similarly, the Women's Centre sense of right and good is nothing more than justice and fairness tailored for their particular viewpoint, the only viewpoint they are willing to entertain.

Having abandoned the Delphic maxim to 'know thyself,' our age has embraced the call to "Be thyself," and, I may add, "to make thyself the measure and focus of all." Rarely have diversity and pluralism been subject to such single-ness of mind.

*Emmanuel C. Bourbouhakis*
*History/Liberal Arts College*

## Pigs have rights too

It's unfortunate the *Link* (rightly) saw fit to criticize administration salary policy by stereotyping non-human animals, pigs, as obnoxious and greedy.

This, it seems to me, contradicts the spirit of the *Link* policy, which is to exclude biased, prejudicial journalism. Although the policy is only explicitly directed toward *Homo Sapiens*, those humans who degrade other animals act in a way similar to those who single out for attack people with X, Y, Z characteristics.

Most *Link* readers may consider my criticism frivolous. Yet the verbal and pictorial degradation of our fellow creatures plays a role in the tragic mass slaughter and threatened extinction of species that our own species perpetuates.

*Shloime Perel*

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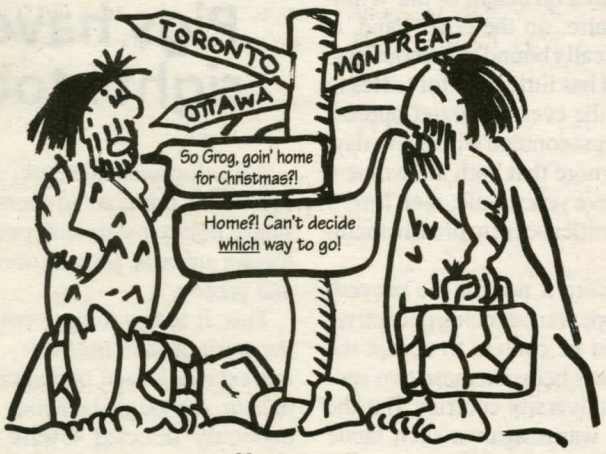


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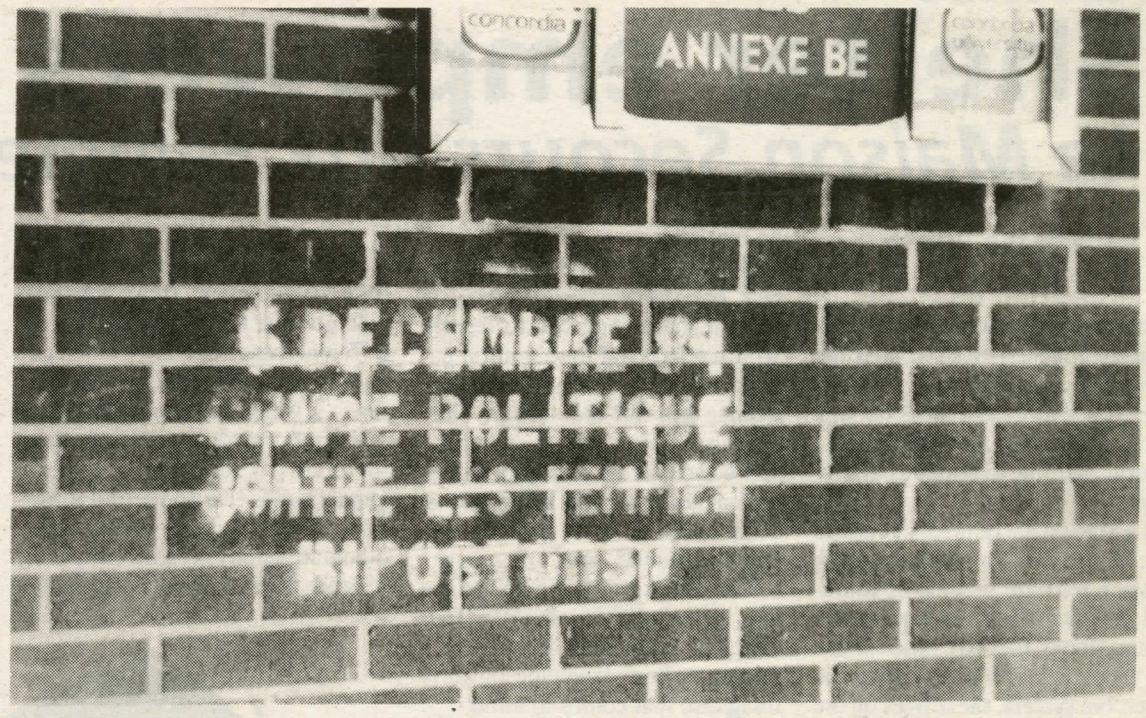
# WOMEN AGAINST VIOLENCE

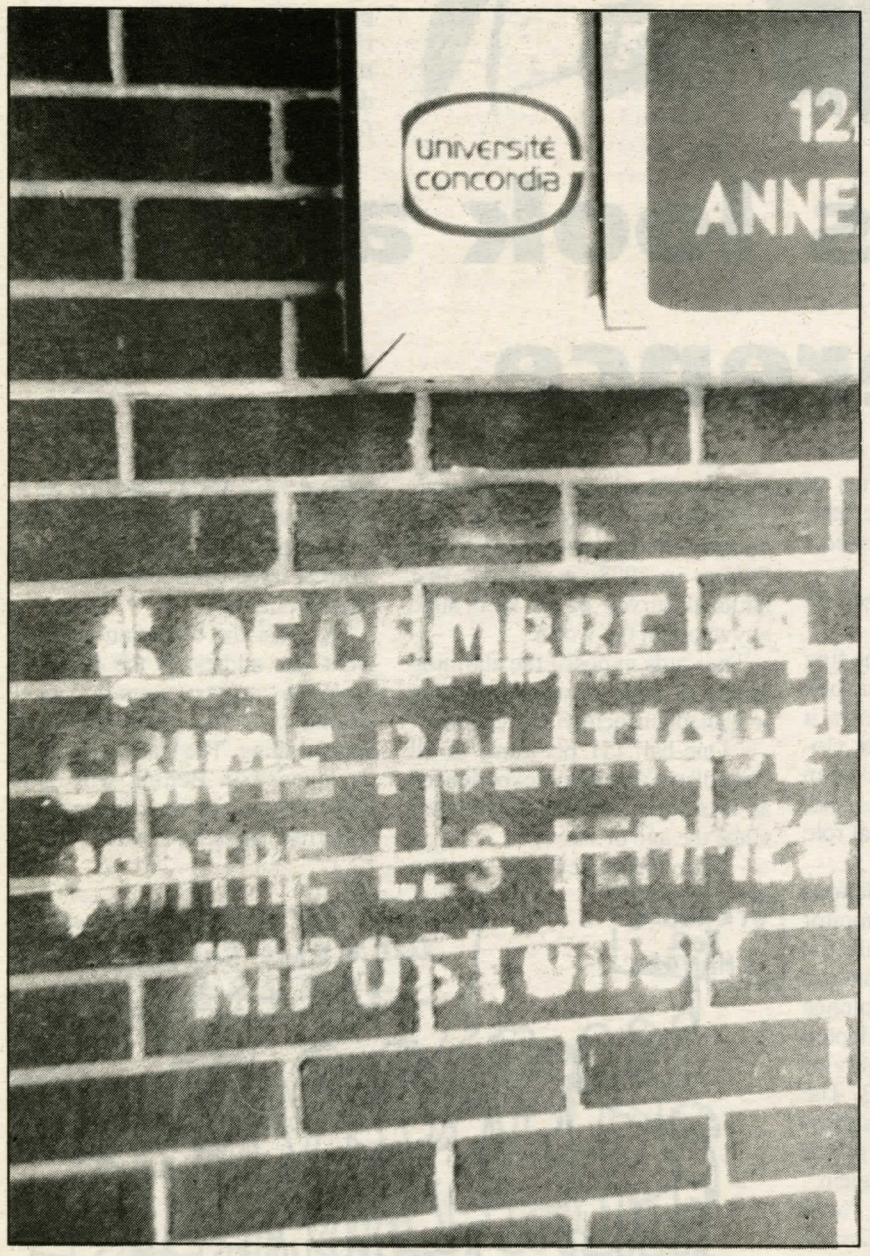



## How should we remember the victims of December 6?

by Jennifer Ditchburn

It's been five years since 14 women lost their lives at the hands of misogynist Marc Lépine. Proclaiming he hated feminists, he separated the male students from the female ones that Wednesday afternoon, seeking out women to shoot with a semi-automatic assault rifle.

It's been five years, and women's groups, universities and individuals across Canada struggle with how best to remember the terrifying events of Dec. 6, 1989.




The day following the massacre itself, women's groups and other women and men of all walks of life congregated at the Ecole Polytechnique to mourn and to demand that violence against women be stopped. Philosophies surrounding the massacre diverged that day when Polytechnique's student association secretary, Nicola Plourde, prevented women from addressing the crowd on the subject of violence against women.

To this day, Polytechnique has chosen to adopt a low profile when commemorating the massacre. It has not organized events relating directly to violence against women, but rather memorial services and masses in dedication to the 14 victims. Today, for example, there will be a moment of silence in the university's classes, and flowers will be thrown near the plaque which bears their names. Feminists and women's groups have criticized the school for not taking an active role in addressing violence against women.

But Heidi Rathjen, executive director of the Coalition for Gun Control, says she sympathizes with Polytechnique's stance. "Basically, Polytechnique is an engineering school and it didn't choose to be a victim and have the moral obligation of changing society," Rathjen said. "They don't want to be a big tomb."

Rathjen was studying at Polytechnique at the time of the massacre, and lost several friends to Marc Lépine. She and other outraged students initiated a major petition to ban assault weapons, and laid the groundwork for the anti-gun lobby group which she now directs.

But she does not place any expectations on the current Polytechnique population.

"These students weren't even there five years ago, and they just want to go to classes and eventually graduate," she said. "To expect them to be more politically active than other schools is unfair."

Esther Vise, formerly of Concordia's Women's Collective, disagrees. Now a buyer for the Toronto Women's Bookstore, she says Polytechnique should have been much more vocal.

"I remember the frustration of women studying at Polytechnique who felt a lack of support on campus," Vise said. "It is important to have political action—that makes the link for me because it's still a day I wake up thinking about the massacre. The violence never felt so present before—there needs to be national action for women."

York University in Toronto has been one of the most active groups to commemorate the Montreal Massacre. The university senate has even legislated that two hours every December 6th be dedicated to commemorative activities. York's events focus largely on combatting violence against women.

Candy Potter, coordinator of York's Women's Centre, says this year's theme is "Violence is a Reality, Survival is a Strategy." She says that the committee organizing this year's events is seeking to go past the deaths of the 14 women, and search for solutions.

"A lot of people have said 'we don't want to mourn anymore,' and want to celebrate that we've made it this far," Potter said. "It (the massacre) was a political action, endemic of the climate of our society. It was not an isolated incident, but part of the continuum of violence against women."

In Montreal, Concordia, UQAM and McGill's women's centres have organized a march and several activities pertaining to violence against women. The YWCA has planned a day of discussion on all types of violence against women, from conjugal violence to violence on television.

"We do have a feminist approach to December 6th. We want women to be involved in finding solutions," says Marie Girardin, coordinator of social services at the women's Y. "We want to go beyond the massacre and empower ourselves. But you can't help but see the day with sadness. Violence is still very close and it doesn't change overnight."

Mary Lamey, a business writer at the Gazette newspaper, reported on the massacre five years ago. She says there is room for both purely commemorative and political types of expression on the anniversary of the massacre.

"I myself see the event placed in the context of violence against women. It's bigger than the deaths of the 14 women," Lamey said. "Polytechnique lives the tragedy in a very personal way. Maybe it's a lot to ask for them to put it in a different context—there are plenty of other people who are remembering it in an active way."

Women *against* Violence

# Shelter empowers women

## *La Maison Secours Aux Femmes offers hope*

by Sarah Uriash

In spite of a growing social rejection of violence against women, the need for women's shelters is urgent, especially with hard economic times and an influx of immigrants who are battling to bridge a cultural gap.

La Maison Secours Aux Femmes is a Montreal shelter for immigrant women who are victims of conjugal violence. From the outside the shelter looks like any other house on the street. But once inside the intercom system, the offices on the main floor and the pamphlets about women's rights, immigration and poverty adorning the walls, are telltale signs that this house is like no other on the block.

Mariella Dipaola one of four case workers at the shelter says that La Maison Secours Aux Femmes, with a mandate to help immigrant women, was one of the first of its kind in Montreal. Now, Dipaola worries for the future of the shelter.

"The funds we receive from the Ministre de Santé et Services Sociaux are far from enough and we were forced to make cuts. We can no longer serve meat for lunch and juice is served only with the evening meal. We must rely on donations from pharmacies for such things as shampoo, toothpaste, and soap." Dipaola explains that the fundraising campaigns have not been overwhelmingly successful either, drawing in approximately $5,000 per year.

Operating a shelter is no small task. The case workers at La Maison provide counselling, child care, help with welfare and immigration papers, and some follow-up once the woman has left the shelter. They play an important role in raising the self-esteem of its residents and in helping them become autonomous. They make sure the women and children are fed, safe, and secure.

They offer assistance 24 hours a day, seven days a week in four different languages, occasionally relying on body language and anything else that comes to mind.

The residence can house a maximum of 15 people and no one is ever turned away. Temporary shelter will be provided until another residence can be found. Women and their children can seek refuge there for no more than 45 days. Out of 170 women that came to the shelter between 1993 and 1994, 60 per cent have returned to their husbands. The average length of stay was 25 days.

Some women find their way to La Maison escorted by the police while others learn of it through word of mouth.

According to Dipaola, battering has nothing to do with socioeconomic or religious affiliation. There are no boundaries for abuse. Even though their backgrounds are diverse, these women share some things in common: poverty, abuse, and low self-esteem.

Dipaola describes the time the women spend at the shelter as "a time for reflection. Those who decide go back to their husbands for different reasons. Many women go back because of the kids, and sometimes it is the children themselves who apply pressure on their mother to return to the family home." Dipaola adds that some find it too difficult to manage on welfare while others are simply not ready to leave.

When talking about conjugal violence Dipaola refers to that one common denominator which appears in all instances of domestic violence, and that is control. She explains that some men treat their wives as chattel, to do with as they wish. In order to gain this control, husbands isolate their wives so they can maintain and perpetuate their position of power and domination.

One woman had arrived from India with her two children in September. Her husband, who sponsored her, has been in Montreal for several years.

"In the early 1980s, after knowing my husband only eight days, we had to marry because he raped me and no other man would find me desirable. I was not pure. After the marriage, he began to drink heavily and he became physically abusive and tortured me mentally," she said.

Despite many pleas from her parents to remain in India, she decided to join her husband in Montreal. When asked why, she whispers, "I did it for the children."

The relationship with her husband remains a destructive one, but he no longer physically beats her. He has become acquainted with Canadian law, and understands that battering his wife can translate into time in jail. He resorts only to psychological torment.

"I had enough," she exclaims as she waves her arms in the air. After a brief stay at La Maison she has already began searching for a suitable apartment for herself and her children. She proudly shows me the rental ads to which she has already responded.

The women who come to the shelter are starting over from scratch. Despite the abusive conditions they withstood and the language, cultural and economical barriers which they must overcome, these women seem empowered and determined to establish new lives for themselves and their children.

# Women's groups look ahead to Beijing conference

By Laura Greer

Systemic rape, forced pregnancy, genital mutilation, conjugal violence, torture, discrimination, murder. A United Nations study on the world's women from 1970-1990 indicates that violence against women is a world-wide epidemic. It transcends all regions, classes and cultures.

The international community, through the United Nations, intends to address the issue of violence against women at the fourth World Conference on Women that will be held in Beijing in September 1995. Other critical areas of concern on the "Platform for Action" for the Beijing Conference include eradicating poverty, eliminating inequality in education, ensuring access to relevant health care, employment and economic participation; furthering the protection and preservation of the environment, ending inequality in sharing of power and decision-making, improving images of women in the mass media, and promoting women's human rights.

Madeleine Gilchrist, Canada's representative for women's non-governmental organizations at preparatory meetings for the Beijing Conference, agrees that violence against women is a global issue.

"Violence against women exists everywhere, just in different forms around the world," Gilchrist said. "It's not so much women being physically beaten like in the Western world; in other regions it is more subtle, like traditional practices being pushed on women."

For example, in Southeast Asia, the key issue of violence against women is forced prostitution, said Gilchrist, who is also the head of Canadian Voice of Women for Peace.

"In Africa, it is that women don't have the same access to healthcare or education as men. Or, in some regions of rural China, girls are not even given names. They are given numbers. These are all forms of violence against women because women's issues are all interlinked," she said.

The United Nations has been directly addressing women's

issues since 1975, when the first World Conference on Women took place in Mexico City. However, it has only been recently that violence against women has been placed on the global agenda. And, Canada played a fundamental role in putting it there.

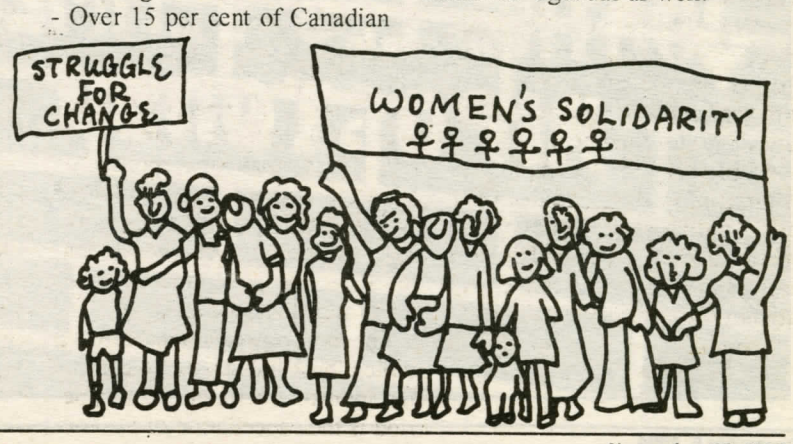
Canada asked the United Nations to establish a rapporteur to monitor violence against women around the world. This led to the Declaration on the Elimination of Violence Against Women that was adopted by the 48th General Assembly of the United Nations in 1993. The declaration states that "a manifestation of historically unequal power relations between men and women," and violence against women, "both violates and impairs or nullifies the enjoyment by women of human rights and fundamental freedoms."

Moreover, when Canada conducted its Violence Against Women Survey in 1993, it was the first national survey of its kind done anywhere in the world.

The study exposed the alarming reality of violence against women in Canadian society. For example:

- One-half (51 per cent) of all Canadian women have experienced at least one incident of violence since the age of 16.
- Over 15 per cent of Canadian women have been assaulted by a current or past spouse on more than one occasion; 32 per cent of these women have been attacked more than 10 times.

"At least the Canadian government has addressed the issue of violence against women," said Gilchrist. "Other countries have done nothing. The UN Conference on Women in Beijing will definitely help to put the issue on other countries' agendas as well."



# Canada's legal system sponsors abuse of immigrant women

by Denise Babin

Martina has been at the Flora Tristan shelter for battered immigrant women for a month. Eight months ago, she didn't imagine herself sitting at the kitchen table of a women's shelter telling the story of how the man who said he loved her beat her. She met Alex while he was on vacation in the Caribbean. The honeymoon was short-lived.

"I came to Canada (from the Caribbean) to marry Alex in the Spring. My mother was worried about the marriage, but I was in love, and I wanted to come be with him in Canada," she said

He had told her he was lonely and he needed someone serious and calm like her to be his wife. As a Canadian citizen, he offered to sponsor her immigration. But the love story turned sour.

"El me trató como si yo fuera un animal."

*He treated me like an animal.*

Violence against women is sustained by the isolation and dependency of its victims. But when an abused woman can't speak any English or French, has no family in the country, and must rely on her abusive partner, the isolation, the dependency, and the insecurity felt by all victims of conjugal violence takes on unsurmountable proportions.

"When an immigrant woman arrives in Canada she often doesn't even know that there are laws that can protect her and that she has rights," says Elizabeth Montecinos, the shelter's coordinator. Unfamiliar with the language, most of the information she has access to is from her family, her partner, or her immediate surroundings.

"People give her incomplete or distorted information based on their understanding of the situation The pressure to protect the family unit is great even though she might pay with her life," Montecinos said.

## How Canada legally sponsors abuse

When, like Martina, the immigrant woman is part of the family reunification programme of Canadian Immigration law, there are several difficulties. As a sponsored immigrant, her rights as an individual are limited by a contract signed between the Canadian government and her husband that effectively relegates her to the role of his absolute dependent.

"Sponsorship is used by the government to save money," says Montecinos. "But the social price women pay is not considered."

The sponsor must show the government that he can guarantee housing, food and clothing, unforeseen needs, social integration, and financial support to the sponsored immigrant. Although the contract once bound the woman to her sponsor for ten years, it is now limited to three as feminists, especially those working at shelters for battered women, pressured the government to alter the provision last August.

The most powerful legal threat a violent husband can use to confine his sponsored wife during this period is the cancellation of the contract. If the woman has not been granted permanent resident status, cancelling the contract could mean being sent back to her country of origin. If she has been granted permanent residence, cancellation brings about bureaucratic nightmares with no pre-determined ending.

The abusive husband often lies and "extends" the contract indefinitely, telling her she can be sent away if she does not submit to his control.

When a battered immigrant woman does escape from her husband, not only is the threat still there, she is still bound to him for the duration of the contract.

## Obstacles to escaping abuse

"He wants to drive me crazy," says Martina. Her husband would blame everything that went wrong in the house on her. Burned-out electrical fuses and broken appliances were her fault He became violent when her cooking was not Canadian enough. He would not give her any money to buy warm clothing, all she had was what came with her from the Caribbean.

"He said if I wasn't happy at home, then I should just get out."

She did, and spent most of the night of her departure in the police station telling her story through an interpreter and laying charges against her husband. She was informed, for the first time, of her rights, and told that if she needed support, she could call the Flora Tristan shelter.

"I cried and cried on the phone. The woman could speak Spanish. I needed someone to tell me that what he was doing was wrong. I needed someone to tell me I was right to get out."

Martina has applied for welfare to support herself but the contract is still in effect and her husband must reimburse the government for whatever she receives. He has refused and his lawyer has threatened to claim he was mentally incapacitated the day they married in order to nullify the wedding and complicate her legal hassles.

## Changing the system

The activists at the Flora Tristan shelter want the law to change. Montecinos would like to see a mechanism put into place where sponsorship can be suspended in cases of abuse. There are already provisions in the law that can be used to break a contract for "valid" reasons, but the definition of "valid" is not specified.

She says codes of conduct and regulations are needed to help immigration, welfare, and other government service employees understand the needs and difficulties immigrant women face.

Activists working against violence against women must also take a look at recent legislation that sends a refugee claimant found guilty of a crime in Canada back to his or her country of origin, says Montecinos.

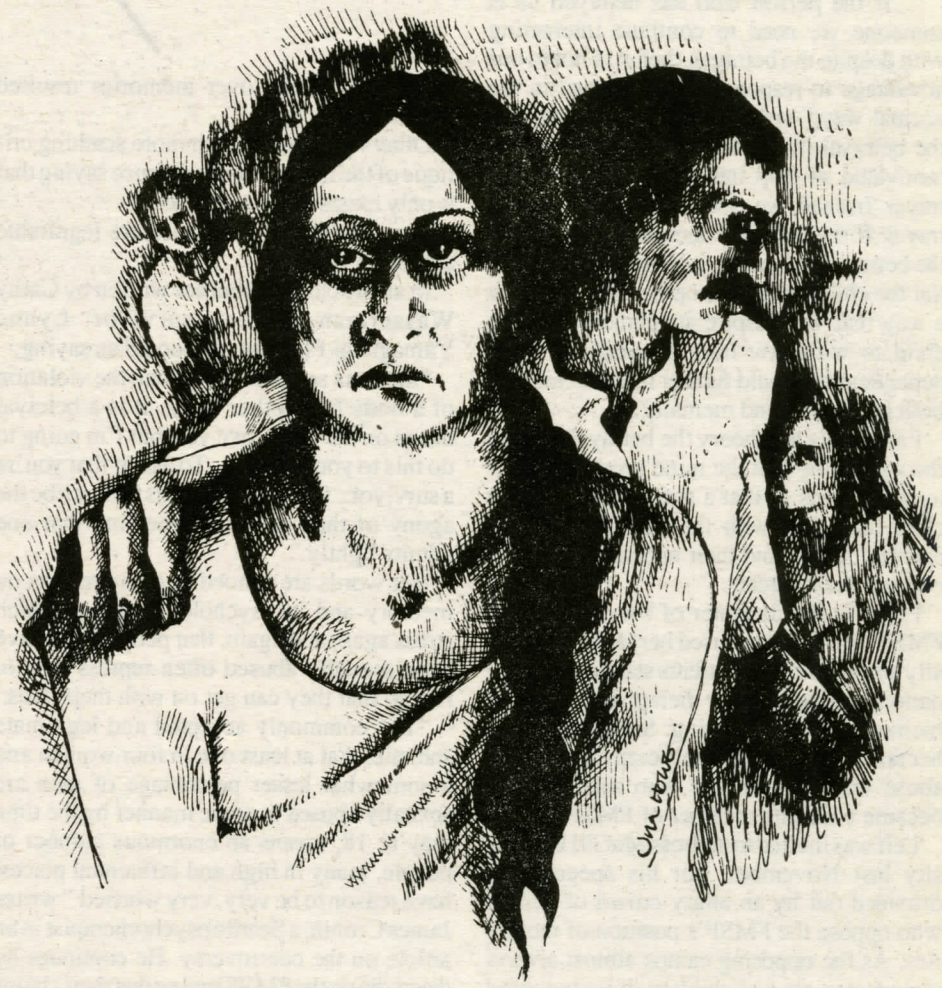
"A battered woman may hesitate to lay charges against her husband for fear of having him sent away," she says. "Things are so unclear, she may even fear being sent away also, if she is a sponsored immigrant."

The Flora Tristan shelter for battered immigrant women has welcomed women from over 90 countries since it opened its doors in the summer of 1986. It is independent from government services and acts as a safe space where women of various cultural and linguistic backgrounds can receive support in their language.

Among these women, 95 per cent were sponsored immigrants, in the process of becoming sponsored, or without any legal status in Canada.

Elizabeth Montecenos believes shelters like Flora Tristan are necessary because government services like CLSCs consider violence against women as if it were a private problem to be treated one case at a time.

"It's a problem deeply rooted in our sexist customs and laws. We can't help victims without also working to change the system," Montecenos said. "And as far as I know, I have never seen CLSC employees take to the streets with placards demanding change!"



# LEGALIZING MEMORY

## Debating the validity of memories: False Memory Syndrome

**by Ingrid Hein**

Sexual abuse is making its way into the courtroom via memories. Children are taking their parents to court years after the alleged incidents took place, and memory is the only evidence of the crime.

But the legal value of memories is in doubt. Psychologists and lawyers argue about whether these memories are real and repressed or constructed and false.

Just as alleged victims are taking their alleged abusers to court with the support of their therapists, the accused are bringing their therapists to court to assist in their defense.

Psychologists and parents accused of sexual abuse have formed an organized group called the False Memory Syndrome Foundation (FMSF) which interest groups and psychologists say is little more than a haven for abusers bent on keeping their crimes undiscovered.

In an attempt to convince the crown that "memory" is valid, or "memory" is false, therapists are pitted against one another as much as parents and children. But the debate is a fierce one, with no easy answers.

### MEMORY RECOVERY

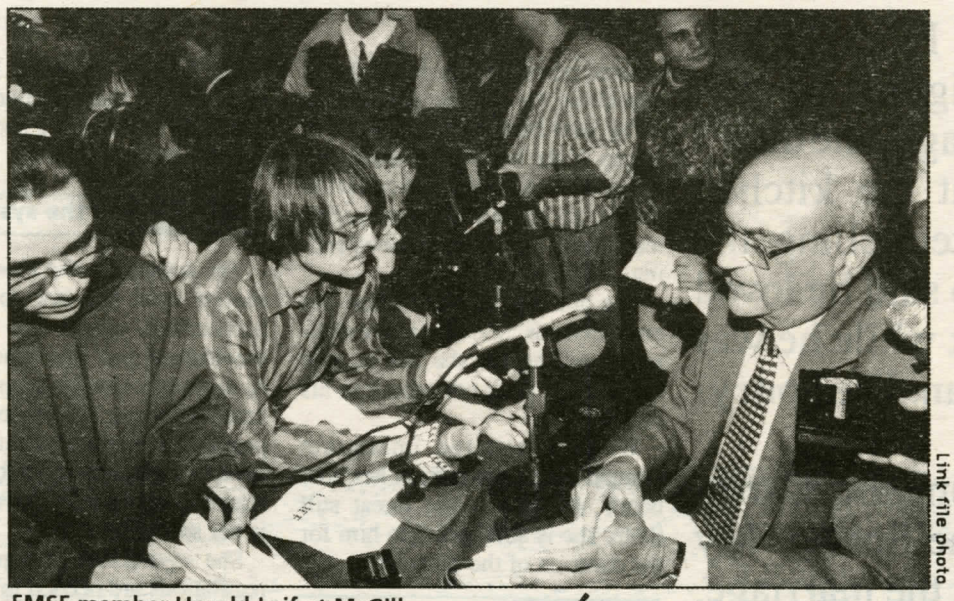
Jennifer Freyd, a psychology professor at the University of Oregon, published a paper entitled *Theoretical and Personal Perspectives on the Delayed Memory Debate*. In it, she talks about traumatic amnesia and the repression of the memory of betrayal.

"...If the person who has betrayed us is someone we need to continue interacting with despite the betrayal, then it is not to our advantage to respond to the betrayal in the normal way," writes Freyd, "If we process the betrayal in the normal way, we will be motivated to stop interacting with the betrayer. Instead, we essentially ignore the betrayal. If the betrayed person is a child, and the betrayer is a parent, it is especially essential the child does not stop behaving in such a way that will inspire attachment. For the child to withdraw from a caregiver he is dependent on would further threaten his life, both physically and mentally."

Freyd calls her theory the betrayal-trauma theory, saying that the mind produces long-term defences so that a person, especially a child, can deal with the conflict between external reality and their necessary dependence on their parents.

Freyd is the daughter of the founders of FMSF. When she accused her father of sexually abusing her, her parents started the foundation, saying that her therapist created the memories she was having. Simultaneously, her father was involved in therapy for alcohol abuse with Harold Leif who subsequently became a leading member of FMSF.

Leif was invited to address McGill University last November, but his speech was drowned out by an angry crowd of people who oppose the FMSF's position of memories. As the opposing camps almost always include parents and children, it is suggested by some psychiatrists and psychologists that the whole debate over memories resulted from a family feud.



Link file photo

FMSF member Harold Leif at McGill

**"Doesn't it make sense that those who are guilty would flock to such an organization?"**
**-James Cronin**
**psychotherapist**

**The therapist doesn't believe the person because it is possible that they don't remember, that they are in denial. Then the work becomes centered on recovering memory..."gradually memories become constructed."**
**-Jean Roch Laurence**
**Concordia psychology**

Others espouse a much more scathing critique of the false memory defence saying that it only exists to serve abusers.

They claim that memories are legitimate and often painful.

In an article in Sojourner written by Cathy Wasserman, incest survivor Lynne Yamaguchi Flethcher is quoted as saying,

"Incest is so much more than the violation of a body by another body...It is a betrayal based on the lie "I love you-but I'm going to do this to you anyway...To admit that you're a survivor...there are no words to describe the agony of that. It's not something that one admits lightly."

Her words are echoed in many reports on memory and in psychology studies which stress again and again, that people who have been sexually abused often repress memories so that they can get on with their lives.

"The commonly accepted and legitimate statistic, that at least one in four women and a somewhat lesser percentage of men are sexually abused in some manner by the time they're 18, means an enormous number of people, many in high and influential places, have reason to be very, very worried." writes James Cronin, a Seattle psychotherapist in an article on the controversy. He continues by discrediting the FMSF saying that their claims are not properly researched or backed up. He adds, "Doesn't it make sense that those who are guilty would flock to such an organization?"

### FALSE MEMORIES

Jean Roch Laurence, associate professor of psychology at Concordia, said that memory experts are skeptical of people who have clear memories of events that happened 20-odd years ago. He said that memories become reconstructed over time, and it is odd that people would block out specific reoccuring events such as sexual abuse in their past.

He said that people create memories because they want answers to their problems. "If they finally meet an expert who says "I know why", it strikes a chord of hope. They may be reluctant but are willing to go along."

Laurence said that therapists have to be careful and acknowledge their biases. He said that a therapist who believes in abuse and repression -an expert in abuse- will try to find signs of abuse in their patients.

"The therapist will ask the question: Have you been abused? -The person will answer no, but the therapist will say -are you sure? The therapist doesn't believe the person because it is possible that they don't remember, that they are in denial. Then the work becomes centered on recovering memory," he said "gradually memories become constructed."

Laurence said that there is a definite difference between people who go to see a therapist remembering incidents from their past, and people who don't have memories of abuse, but want to find answers to their problems.

"If you've always remembered, there is a chance that (memories) are not exact replications of events, but true memories."

But memories are not as reliable as we would like to think, says Elizabeth Loftus, professor of psychology at the University of Washington and a member of FMSF.

Her recently published book, co-written with Katherine Ketcham, is titled *The Myth of Repressed Memory: False Memories and Allegations of Sexual Abuse*. In it, she says that empirical science has established that memory is inherently sketchy, reconstructive, and unlocalized. She says that memory decays over time.

### MEMORY AND THE LAW

The debate reaches its culminating point in the courtroom, where experts on both sides of the fence give detailed psychology lessons on memory. Winning a court case on sexual abuse no longer rests solely with the lawyer, but also with psychiatrists and psychologists who are willing to provide their research as evidence in the courtroom. Not only is the accused on trial, but also the therapist who guided the accuser through the process of remembering.

At one time, hypnosis was used as a form of memory recall in the courtroom, but evidence revealed that hypnotized individuals often have distorted memories, influenced by adult memories.

Therefore, evidence by hypnosis is no longer valid in the courtroom.

According to McGill associate professor and associate dean academic who specializes in Family Law, Dr. Alison Harvison Young, court proceedings require far more evidence above and beyond expert opinion.

"The law provides for the possibility to have expert evidence brought into the court. As a lawyer I would take both the notion that memory recovery is possible, and consider the notion that we recall things but may be mistaken," she said.

Harvison Young stresses that the law favors the presumption of innocence. The consequences of being found guilty of a criminal offence such as sexual abuse means a prolonged jail sentence. The crown must be sure that a person is guilty beyond a reasonable doubt.

"We won't send someone to jail based only on repressed memory, " she said, "but will listen to the evidence, also looking at corroborating evidence."

# Female genital mutilation inflicts a lifelong wound

by Deana Beltsis

Sunita will never forget the sharp-edged green piece of glass they used to cut her genitals. Sunita was 6 years old when her mother brought her to Egypt to visit her aunt and uncle. She remembers being held down by five women.

"My legs were spread apart," she said. "My aunt held one leg and my mother the other. Two women I did not know held my arms. The midwife, a short older woman, squeezed and cut out my clitoris, she then clamped onto the lips of my vagina and cut away my flesh. I remember very well. She used a green piece of glass that quickly turned red. I was sewn shut. I hated my mother."

Sunita is one of 114 million women worldwide that have been circumcised against their will, in what has been called Female Genital Mutilation (FGM). According to the World Health Organization, at least two million girls a year are born into cultures that practice FGM, and 6,000 girls are mutilated daily.

## Scarred for life

Katherine Tait, executive assistant for The National Council of Women in Canada, said there are three forms of female genital mutilation. *Circumcision*, the mildest form, is the removal of all or part of the clitoris. The second form, *excision*, is the cutting away of the clitoris and all of the vaginal lips. The third, and most horrific, is *infibulation*. This involves the removal of all genital parts, followed by the sewing together of the two sides of the vulva with thorns or catgut sutures so that when the remaining skin of the labia majora heals, it forms a bridge of scar tissue over the vagina. A tiny opening is preserved by the insertion of a twig or small object to allow for the passage of urine and menstrual blood.

According to Tait, it is not uncommon for a child to hemorrhage to death, because of the crude, unhygienic tools used by practitioners. "Most of the women that undergo this procedure have some sort of complication throughout their lives," she said.

These complications range from pain, bleeding, infections, and difficulties in childbirth, to reduced or total lack of sexual pleasure. In most cases of infibulation complications are lifelong and serious, including chronic infections and death.

## Underground practices in Canada

In some form or another FGM is practiced in more that 39 countries, mostly throughout Africa, from Senegal to Somalia. The operation is on the rise in Yemen and Oman, and is very common in Malaysia and Indonesia. While current adherents are primarily Muslim, FGM goes back centuries in central Africa and Egypt, and in some societies, it had been practised by Christians, animists and Jews.

To many of the cultures which practice female genital mutilation, it is a ceremonial rite of passage, marking a girl's coming of age. Practitioners believe it suppresses sexual urges, ensuring female virginity before marriage, and deterring infidelity after marriage.

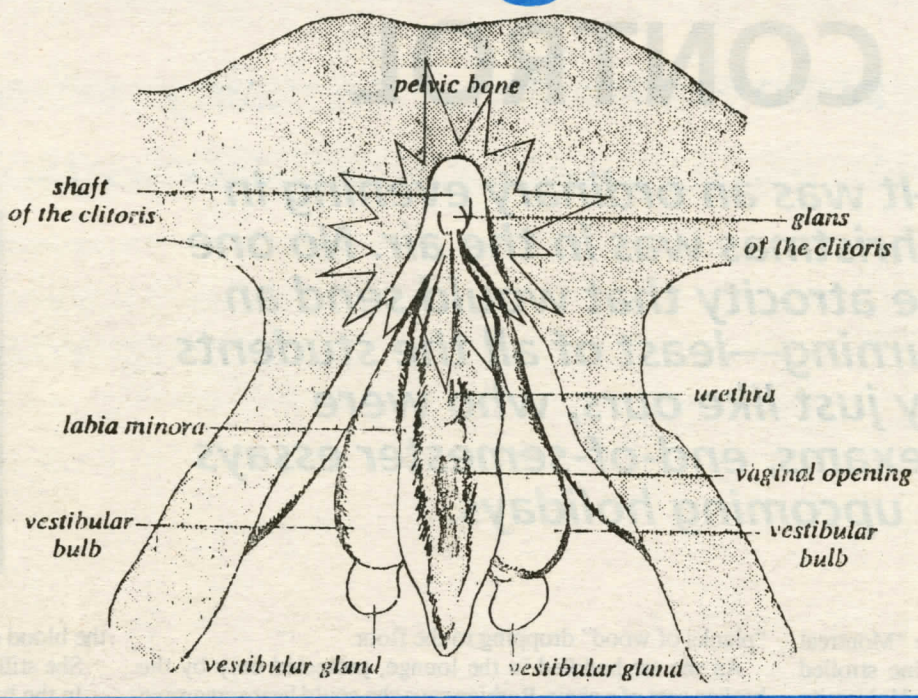
Tait says there are no documented cases of doctors performing these operations in Canada, but it is widely believed to occur.

Sunita belongs to a women's group in Canada that helps victims who have survived FGM. She says female circumcisions are an underground practice in Canada.

"Families take their children back to their countries of origin or save money to bring the circumciser over to Canada. The word then spreads around the immigrant communities and other families will pay to have the operation performed on their daughters," Sunita said.

No studies have yet been done to determine how many FGM survivors there are in Canada, who exactly is performing these rituals and where they are being done.

"This doesn't surprise me. People who practice it have no choice but to go underground. Under Canadian law, it falls under child or sexual abuse. Communities who find doctors, or midwives willing to perform the mutilation are not likely to report them," she added.




**"I stand here today to testify on behalf of many, many girls and women, who had no choice when parts of their bodies were removed in the name of culture and social conformity. In my society, that conformity means the cutting of essential parts of the genitals of women. And because they are women, their fate is to marry, give their husbands sexual pleasure, and give birth to many children who are suffering in silence, obedience and acceptance. Because as women we are made economically and socially powerless, most of us have little chance to say no."**

***-Nahid Toubia at the Vienna Tribual, 1993***

## Making FMG a criminal offence

Many Canadians were first introduced to female genital mutilation in September when CNN broadcasted footage of a clitoridectomy being performed on a screaming girl, during the UN-sponsored International Conference on Population and Development in Cairo, Egypt.

"People had the chance to see how brutal FGM is. It is condoned in many of these countries. Women in these countries are the property of their husbands and no one is likely to take damaged property," Sunita said.

One month after this graphic coverage was shown, a federal consultation paper, which asked Canadians to consider the possibility of allowing a person's cultural beliefs to be used as a general defence for committing crimes, was released.

On November 14 Justice Minister Allan Rock said to Canadians that he would "never" introduce a general "cultural defence" into the Criminal Code to allow people to escape conviction on the grounds of their religion or culture. Rock said he was "especially troubled" that it may be used as defence to justify female genital mutilation.

"There is no doubt that FGM will be defended by certain groups on the grounds that it is part of their culture. Culture is often used as an excuse," Sunita said. "FGM is a form of severe violence against young girls and women, and there is absolutely no reason as to why this violence has to occur. Whether it be culture or religion, sexual disfigurement of girls is wrong."

Many groups and organizations want a bill passed that would specifically make FGM a criminal offence. Recently, Quebec MP Christine Gagnon introduced a private member's bill amending the criminal code to make FGM a specific offence.

"Charges of sexual or child abuse aren't good enough. We want it stated in The Criminal Code of Canada. We've sent proposals to the Minister of Justice several times." Tait said.

Other groups like Women's Health in Women's Hands, a Toronto-based organization, is strongly opposed to female genital mutilation.

"We firmly believe that a law should be passed making FGM a specific criminal offence. We are trying to lobby governments throughout the world to pass laws making the mutilation of women illegal," said Linda Cornwell, a member of the group which, in addition to political advocacy, provides emotional and educational support to women that have undergone mutilation.

"I've always been a firm believer in religious rights and freedoms," Sunita said. "I believe that every religion and culture should be tolerated. I'm also a strong believer in human rights, and the right not to be maimed or mangled in anyway belongs to every woman and every young girl always."

# LEPINE SHOOTING SPREE SURVIVOR NOW BATTLES FOR GUN CONTROL

photo by Justin Rochefort

***OTTAWA (CUP)—It was an ordinary evening in early December. Christmas was in the air. No one was expecting the atrocity that would send an entire city into mourning—least of all the students at a university just like ours, who were preoccupied with exams, end-of-semester essays and the upcoming holidays.***

Today marks the fifth anniversary of the 'Montreal Massacre,' when 25-year-old Marc Lepine strolled through the halls of the École Polytechnique at the University of Montreal and killed 14 engineering students — all of them women.

Heidi Rathjen was inside the building at the time of the shootings. She has since graduated from the École Polytechnique with a degree in civil engineering.

Rathjen, now 28 years old, says she's not in mourning anymore, she's on a mission.

She works full-time for the Coalition for Gun Control, an organization she co-founded one year after the shootings with Wendy Cukier, a Ryerson Polytechnic University professor.

The gun Marc Lepine used was a military assault weapon. He bought the gun legally, along with two 30-bullet ammunition clips. All he needed was $10 and no prior criminal record to get a permit.

Today, it's a little harder to buy a gun. Bill C-17, which was passed in 1991 partly as a result of the coalition's work, means the buyer now has to pay $50 for the permit, fill out a personal background questionnaire, take a safety course that usually lasts about two days, and then wait another 28 days.

***

Rathjen was just 70 yards away from Lepine when he went on his shooting spree in the corridor of the Polytechnique building.

It was the last day of school before Christmas exams and Rathjen recalls being in a horrible mood.

She was working on an assignment in one of the student lounges when a fellow student ran into the room and said there was a "crazy guy" with a gun in the building.

"We heard some shots and it was so unbelievable. Nobody had actually grasped what was happening," Rathjen says. "As soon as it was clear to everyone on that floor that there was something dangerous going on, we locked the doors—no one dared go out— and closed the light. Everyone kept quiet."

But Rathjen says at that point she was not aware she was in any danger.

"I never thought for a second that people were actually dying. I thought at the very worst, someone might have been shot in the arm or the leg."

She says there were about 13 other students in the lounge with her, and that everyone was crouched under tables and perched on chairs.

"Some people were literally hiding under the tables and they were taking it very seriously," says Rathjen.

"There was a chair in the room, and the seat was loose, so I took the seat and started protecting myself with it and I felt silly. Everyone had a different reaction."

She describes being pumped on a strange sort of adrenaline while she was hiding in the student lounge.

"My heart was racing, but I wasn't actually scared. It was more nervous excitement than fear."

She says no one knew Lepine had murdered anyone.

"We were all going, 'What's going on?' and, 'Oh, we'll be in the news—no way!' and stuff like that. We had no idea what was going on."

She compares the sound of the gun shots to the sound of "planks of wood" dropping to the floor.

As she sat huddled in the lounge, protected only by the broken seat of a chair, Rathjen says she could hear screaming from the hallway —particularly one English woman who was pleading, "Help me! Help me!"

Rathjen remembers the screams were interspersed with eerie silences.

"It was a relief every time it got quiet. It was terrible to have to listen to the screaming."

She says she had no way of knowing that while she was safe behind the locked door of the lounge, Lepine—a failed military candidate and a rejected applicant for the Polytechnique—was making his way through the building and killing women at random with a Ruger semi-automatic rifle.

photo by Justin Rochefort

In Memory

Wearing a dark hunting cap and jacket, Lepine began the shooting spree sometime between 4:30 p.m. and 5:15 p.m. on the second floor of the school.

He shot and killed his first victim in the hallway and then went into a classroom at the far end of the hall.

Lepine ordered all the men in the class to leave the room. After announcing that feminists had ruined his life, he opened fire on the 10 women who had remained in the classroom. He murdered six of them.

He made his way to the cafeteria where he killed three more women, and then went back up to the third floor and killed his last four victims before turning the gun on himself.

By the time he killed himself, Lepine had taken the lives of 14 women between the ages of 21 and 31, and wounded another 13 people.

As the police led her outside, Rathjen remembers seeing a trail of blood on the floor of the corridor.

"I just quickly looked away," she says. "I assumed it was the blood of the wounded as they were being carried out."

She still did not know anyone was dead.

In the hours that followed, Rathjen learned that her friend Nathalie Provost had been in the classroom with Lepine. Provost had survived four gunshot wounds—one to the foot, two to the thigh, and one that grazed her eyebrow.

Later that night, Rathjen and her friends gathered in the auditorium of the school to hear the list of the dead. One of the names on the list was Anne-Marie Lemay, a 24-year-old engineering student and a close friend of Rathjen's was dead.

"I heard Anne-Marie's name and I don't remember reacting. It's hard to expiain, but I was just numb by that point."

Rathjen says the worst part was watching the parents react to the news of their daughters' deaths.

"Every time a name was read, there would be an awful scream from one of the mothers."

***

After the massacre, Rathjen and a group of Polytechnique students started a petition requesting a ban on all military assault weapons.

What began as a student project turned into a full-time career for Rathjen.

She has been the executive director of the Coalition for Gun Control since she helped form it in 1991 as a way to strengthen existing support for gun control.

She says she formed the coalition because there was a lack of public representation in the gun control debate.

For the last three and a half years, Rathjen has put an engineering career on hold to fight for gun control. She has no plans to abandon her work for the coalition in the near future.

"I don't want to leave until I finish what I've started," she says firmly. What she started was a long, uphill battle with many powerful opponents.

Rathjen says up until recently, the coalition's biggest roadblock was the Conservative government. "The gun lobby had a big influence on the Conservative government."

She says a lot of Conservatives from out west, like Don Mazankowski, did not support gun control.

Rathjen says the gun lobby in Canada is not like the well-organized National Rifle Association in the United States, but is made up of small special-interest groups like hunters and gun sellers who work together to fight against gun control.

But she says the Liberal government has been more receptive to helping the coalition achieve their primary objective—the passing of a stricter gun control bill.

The coalition is hoping the bill would require the registration of all guns, a ban on military assault weapons, control of the sale of ammunition and an increase in border control.

As it is now, there is no record of guns coming into Canada from the U.S. Guns sold on the black market cannot be traced back to anyone.

The coalition's goals just might become a reality. Justice Minister Allan Rock will soon be announcing the measures of a proposed gun control bill, and Rathjen is optimistic.

"It may contain everything we asked for," she says.

The bill won't be tabled in the House of Commons until February, but Rathjen says even the introduction of the bill is the first major step toward victory.

# A Congregation of Beatniks?

by Ellen Chen

photo by Jeff Melbourne

Andrea Strudensky is Broke

Dim lights, smoky air, and poetry. A congregation of Beatniks? Well, not quite.

Last Tuesday, Bar Loonies (situated at the corner of the Main and Rachel) was the place to be. Authors, poets, and literary enthusiasts alike, got together to celebrate the launch of the much anticipated literary publication produced quarterly or "whenever I have enough submissions and cash" as **Broke**'s publishing editor, Andrea Strudensky, puts it. The magazine is not just Strudensky's brainchild. **Broke** *is* Andrea. This is no small feat in such a massive market. Still, while the magazine racks are filling up with images of unwearable clothes, outlandishly furnished homes, and bad gourmet recipes, **Broke**'s stylish cover and witty contents stand out from the floods of mediocrity.

The fall issue's contributing writers are: Brian Sentes, A. Steinmetz, Doug Issacs, and Emma Lake. Each writer has a unique and clearly distinct style that should prove to satisfy even the most fickle of avid readers. As a result, **Broke**'s reading material is fresh, interesting, and at the very least, entertaining. This rather short though excellent collection of creative writing is sure to rejuvenate interest in discovering some of Montreal's promising literary talent.

The magazine launch provided a taste of some of that literary talent. Three of the contributing authors: Sentes, Steinmetz, and Issacs, as well as writer Mathew Bissonnette, were present. They each read from some of their reworked manuscripts. The readings were insightful, thoughtful, often humorous and quirky- much to the delight of the listening audience. The smoky and comfortable atmosphere was interrupted periodically by one or two (ahem) Loonie regulars by way of indecipherable guttural groans. This, however, only resulted in the subtle laughter on the part of the audience and in no way dampened the ambiance, nor did it detract attention from the readings.

At only $1 a copy, **Broke** is a veritable bargain. These days, when a buck doesn't stretch far, it's definitely worth parting with some change in return for deliciously entertaining reading material to sink your proverbial teeth into. It's important to be supportive of good quality independent publications such as **Broke**. Without such publications to offer diversity to a field dominated and saturated by so much big budget crap, the general public runs the risk of becoming boring devoid of a single original thought. Of course, this is just a personal opinion.

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**Broke**
a new literary magazine

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**Broke** Is available at bookstores such as: the Doublehook, Argo, and the Word, just to name a few. So keep your eyes peeled if you want a copy.

*For those interested in submitting creative writing to Broke, your manuscripts should be sent to: Broke, 6010 Cavendish Blvd. #814, Montreal, Que., H4W 2Y2. Please note that submissions will not be returned regardless of whether it's published or nor unless requested otherwise.*

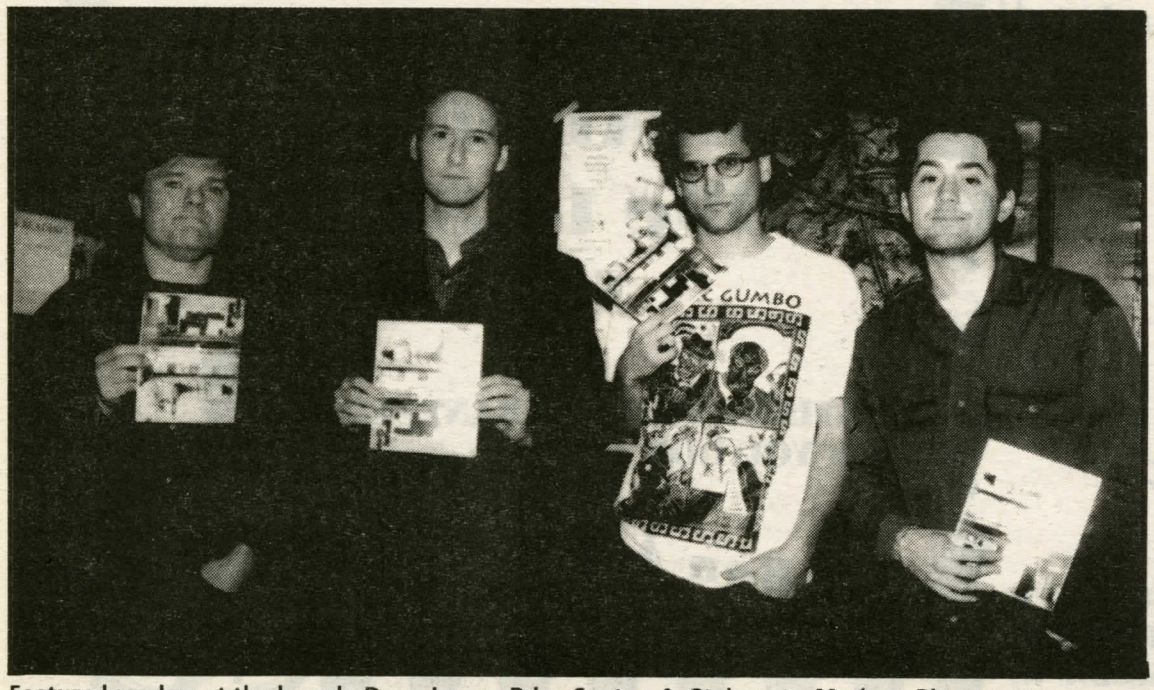


photo by Jeff Melbourne

Featured readers at the launch: Doug Isaacs, Brian Sentes, A. Steinmetz, Mathew Bissonnette

# From Pop to Pagan Sexuality

by Connie C. Wu

According to the back cover of Camille Paglia's latest book, ***"Vamps and Tramps"***, it is apparently a collection of essays on Popular Culture. It also calls her work "brilliant" and "invigorating". I, on the other hand, don't think so.

The book is thick (past 500 pages) and Paglia has many two-cent comments to put forth. In ***"Vamps and Tramps"***, her essays are compiled over a span of 2 years (1992-1994), most having appeared previously in journals and magazines (The Advocate, US, The Washington Post). There are also transcripts of television shows, short films and interviews involving Paglia.

The several essays are under different subject headings: Pop Theater, Memoirs and Adventures, Book Reviews, The Culture Wars, Masters and Mistresses, to name a few. It seems Paglia just has a bundle to say about everything and anything.

Under Pop Theater, Paglia writes about the feminist and media's misconception about Amy Fisher in the essay, *"Our Tabloid Princess: Amy Fisher"*. Paglia argues against the feminist view of life under the patriarchy which lead to Amy Fisher's downfall. Paglia calls Fisher a "spoiled only child, a mall chick" and in her opinion, the crucial element in the story is Mary Jo's Buttafuoco's insistence on standing by her husband. Paglia sees that Fisher's crime was triggered by barbaric lust which is a part of us all and tells feminists to open their eyes to this reality and to stop blaming men for "the darkness of human condition".

With Masters and Mistresses, Paglia pays tribute to several of media's icons: Diana Regina, Hillary Clinton, Jackie Kennedy Onassis. She calls Hillary Clinton a bitch, but in a good sense, thus calling the title of her essay, *"Kind Of A Bitch: Why I Like Hillary Clinton"*. She even analyzes Jackie Kennedy Onassis' physical appearance (compared to Marilyn Monroe, she is manly with big hands and feet) and believes Onassis exudes power due to her "manliness".

We even get a glimpse of Paglia's private life (like the essays aren't full of it already) through her memoirs and of people who have touched her life and influenced her. Under Memoirs and Adventures, the reader is allowed to read scripts of films she has participated in and pictures of her on set. And at the back of the book, a collection of Camille Paglia comic strips/cartoons are displayed for the reader to observe and muse over. Ho hum.

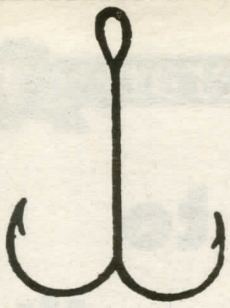
The main essay in ***"Vamps and Tramps"*** is *"No Law in The Arena"*, where Paglia explores many views (excuse me, her views) on rape, abortion, pornography, homosexuality. What it is, is further comments on what Paglia believes is right and makes it her job to try and set society straight with pagan theory (actually, pagan everything) and 60's spirit, 60's views. Hello? Has anyone told this woman it's the 90's?

Paglia's title of her essay, *"No Law In The Arena"*, comes from a scene in the movie Ben-Hur. She uses this title to point out that, "If women want freedom and equality, they must learn the rules of the game.". Paglia calls today's feminism Betty Crocker feminism, and blames many episodes of date rape and sexual harassment on white-middle class women, who give out mixed signals. She connects aneroxia to the white middle-class and young women's "eye-batting mannerisms of Daddy's little girl" to receive attention as to provoke and seduce men. Paglia calls their body language and behavior as a form of non-verbal consent. The same goes for women who dress provocatively, "if you advertise, you'd better be ready to sell!".

This sort of tongue and cheek ranting goes on for pages on several subjects. She never says anything different although she touches on different subjects, only to continuously churn on and on about her libertarian views, libertarian upbringing, pagan theory and 60's passé. The woman can't stop rambling about herself.

But who *is* Camille Paglia and who made her the crusader of 90's society? Who really cares what she thinks? The entire book is more like a autobiography and little ego trip of Paglia's at the reader's expense. Move over, Camille, I think as they say in Pop Culture, your fifteen minutes are up!

*"Vamps and Tramps"*
*Camille Paglia*
*Random House*
*$19.95*



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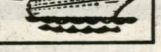

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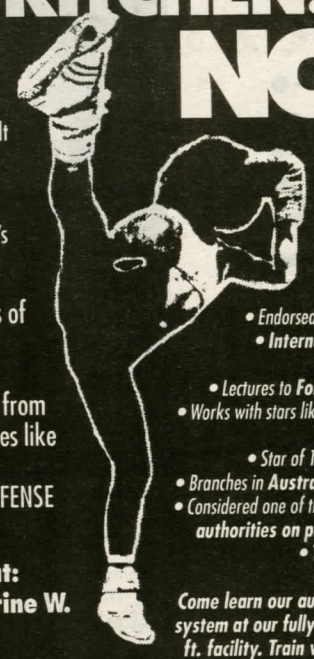

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# The beauty within Kyoto

by Meredith Adolph

YUKIO
THE TEMPLE OF THE GOLDEN PAVILION
MISHIMA
"Established Mishima's claim as one of the outstanding writers of the world." — The New York Times

In 1950, the sacred and ancient Zen temple of Kinkakuji, the 'Golden Pavilion' located in Kyoto, was deliberately burned to the ground. One of Japan's national treasures and "a rare masterpiece of Buddhist garden architecture", it had stood for over five centuries, and the entire nation was shocked by its loss. The arsonist was a student of Zen Buddhism, a young man described as a "stutterer", unable to communicate with other people. He was an unhappy and unbalanced youth, whose self-hatred made him envious of the temple's great beauty, causing him to be obsessed with the desire to hurt or destroy anything that was beautiful. He had planned to die in the fire, but at the last minute ran from the burning building and gave himself up to the authorities.

The 1959 novel **The Temple of the Golden Pavilion** based on this incident, written by Yukio Mishima, was recently translated from the Japanese by Ivan Morris.

The novel is set in wartime Kyoto, and tells the story of the young man named Mizoguchi, tracing the changes in his character from that of an isolated, awkward, stuttering boy to a violent, psychopathic criminal. The first time that Mizoguchi sees the Golden Temple he is disappointed: "Could beauty, I wondered, be as unbeautiful a thing as this?". However with time, he becomes more and more obsessed with its image. It is after this first visit that he begins to show signs of destructive behaviour. After an incident where he is humiliated and rejected by an older, attractive girl, he finds himself wishing for her death. The girl is later killed, in a conflict involving the army and her lover, who is a deserter. Although Mizoguchi has nothing to do with her death, he somehow holds himself responsible for it - and is not ashamed..

When attending university several years later, Mizoguchi meets his first real friend, a clubfooted young man; it is Kashiwagi's physical deformity and Mizoguchi's internal deformity that binds their friendship. Through this relationship, he is introduced to stealing, gambling, and frequenting the geisha district. As he begins to explore the things that distance him from the Buddhist disciplines he had studied, the presence of violence seems to grow in his life and escalate.

Coming from a Western background and not having much knowledge of Asian cultures, I found while reading this book that it was difficult to get a full and complete understanding of what was happening in the story. Everything in the novel seems to be inextricably linked to Zen Buddhism and Japanese culture. I couldn't help feeling that I was missing something. Nevertheless, the book is wonderfully written, full of powerful images, both violent and beautiful, that are fascinating and disturbing. Interestingly enough, the Temple of the Golden Pavilion has since been rebuilt by the Japanese government, in Kyoto where it was originally built.

*The Temple of the Golden Pavilion*
*Yukio Mishima*
*Vintage International*
*$14.95*

# Awakening

by Sean Kuraw

I have always been with him
He is my mentor, father, guardian, and lover
He has always been with me
He was there when no one else was there for me
He taught me how I should act, think, and be
From the time I was little right up to now
I always try to look just right for him
to smile and to try to stay thin because I love him
But lately, he still criticizes me, yells at me, and hits me
He is so hard to please
Even after the surgery which hurt like crazy
and left me black and blue for weeks
But it was worth it
He seems to like me more
And that makes me like me more
But he is so critical
Sometimes he says I'm fat and ugly
And it's so hard to look and be like that all the time
Sometimes I don't know what to do...
Maybe I'll leave him.

## Upcoming Events

**Crêperie Lorientaise**, 2006 Mt-Royal E., 521-5030. Folklore, celtic harp and stories every Sat. at 7pm.

**John Alexander Pub**, 2065 Bishop, 289-1889. Local writers read from their work every Mon. at 8pm.

**Concordia's Downtown Press** presents a reading by **John Asfour** (Ph.d from McGill in poetry) from his latest works and manuscripts on Wed. Dec. 7 at Concordia's **Hall Building** in room H-762-123 at 8pm.

**Café Kaballah**, 68 Duluth E., 284-6642 presents Bard's Gauntlet with poet **Ian Stephens**: dark ballads, poetry, pop and rock. Release of book of poetry/prose, ***Diary Of A Trademark*** and album ***"Wining, Dining, Drilling"*** on Wed. Dec.7 at 9pm. Free admission.

**Black Rose Books** Is holding a book launch Dec. 14 from 5-7pm for the following: **John Grande *"Balance: Art and Nature"*, Marie Léger *"Aboriginal Peoples: Toward Self-Government"*, Marie-Anik Gagné *"A Nation within a Nation: Dependency and the Cree"*, Barbara Nichols & Peter Leonard, eds *"Gender, Aging & the State"*** and **Henri Lustiger-Thaler & Daniel Salée, eds *"Artful Practices: The Political Economy of Everyday Life"*** will be held at 3981 St. Laurent Blvd. (corner Duluth), Suite 888, 844-4076.

**Tomson Highway**, author of ***The Rez Sisters*** and ***Dry Lips oughta Move to Kapuskasing*** will be Concordia's writer in residence starting in January. Highway has won the Dora Mavor Moore Award for both of his plays.

**RANCID**
*LET'S GO*
Epitaph/Cargo

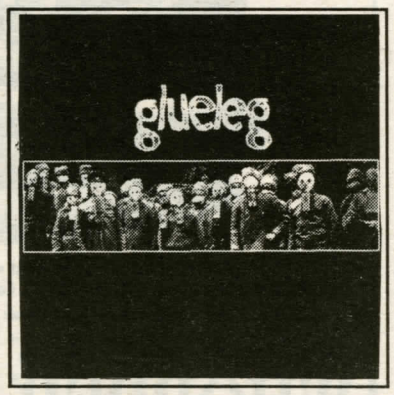
**by Jon Richler**

Recall the feeling you got at a surprise party in your honor, or driving by a certain spot you had a make-sesh at before or after you puked out your 26er. Maybe even coming across that box of notes you and your friends shot at each other during math in grade 10. This is the feeling you get when you pop in *Let's Go* : a nauseating sensation of, "I've been here before, and I liked it. Do I still like it? Fuck yeah!" Proceed to crank volume up several notches.

**Rancid** take the stage once again to prove their right to still tote mohawks. And unlike the pop-punk cross-bearers out on Woodstock stages and music channels everywere, Rancid most excellently make you feel like slamming your sibling into the wall. Go on. Go get a tattoo. Like it.

Cool topics are yelled and harmonically chorused your way, care of *Side Kick*, a rammin tune about vigilantes and their rough n ready partners, *Dope Sick Girl* wails about getting ripped off by your love. On the serious Oi! side, and respectable skin side, there are cuts like *The Ballad of Jimmy & Johnny*, a story, nay, ballad about skin mindset vs. skin mindset. *Salvation* rants about the homeless walking through a rich San Fran neighbourhood on the way to the Sally Ann, and gets your butt boiling, in true Punk fashion.

This, true believers, is what makes a punk album stand out and scrape your knee. 15 or more songs on one album, under three minutes, no cock-rockin solos, just a slew of topics that get you where it matters. The mind.




**GLUELEG**
HEROIC DOSES
Idependent

**by Stephanie Pajevic**

Funky, jazzy tunes with a hard core edge is what you'll find on **Glueleg**'s new album *Heroic Doses*. The Toronto-based band takes advantage of a variety of instruments such as the saxophone, the trumpet, and something I've never heard of called the chapman stick. **Glueleg** reminds me of a cross between **Urban Dance Squad** and **Me, Mom and Morgantaler.**

"The rhythm fills your mind," sings one of the vocalists (and chapman stick player) **Carlos Alonso** in the song *Joja*. Indeed it does, the driving beat just fills up the room.

Alonso has a great voice too, which is espescially brought out in *Park Alien*. This song is the best one off the album. It offers a welcome variation with its breathy sax and low tuba which set the tune off with a slow beat. The song then goes through a gradual change as the electric guitar and the trumpet are slowly brought in , giving it a harder edge.

The other vocalist (and electric guitarist) Ruben Huizenga isn't bad either. He sings on half the tracks on this album. In *Lillies*, his rich voice blends in with the sax and the trumpet which are amazing on this track.

The only problem with this album is that the guitar and the drums are too overpowering at times. Because of this the sax and the trumpet sometimes get drowned out.

Overall, *Heroic Doses* .is a good, funky album which is worth checking out.

**SHAQ FU — DA RETURN**
*SHAQUILLE O'NEAL*
available on Jive Records

**by Danny Chan**

Poor Shaquille O'Neal. Maybe playing for the NBA's Orlando Magic isn't enough for him. Perhaps starring in his own feature-length movie, *Blue Chips*, isn't satisfying enough. Could it be he's not happy with all those multi-million dollar commercial endorsements?

In any case, Shaq saw fit to drop his second CD onto an unsuspecting public. *Shaq Fu — da Return* is a love letter from the Shaq to the Shaq. O'Neal's "ILOVE ME!" philosophy is manifested in such lame, no-hook, no-rhythm tracks as *Shaq's Got It Made* and *My Style, My Stelo*.

The CD's most profound and intelligent cut is *Biological Didn't Bother. Biological* is a tribute to how his stepfather, Phil Harrison, reared him after his natural dad abandoned him and his mom at age 4.

Aside from *Freaky Flow*, the CD is devoid of redeemable hooks. *Shaq Fu — da Return* is even worse than his debut disc from last year: the widely criticized but huge-selling *Shaq Diesel*. The name of the first cut, *No Hook*, best sums up the entire CD. Cut after cut, Shaq can't get going and by the final song, he fouls out of the game. (Gee, can't wait for his third CD now, can we?)

Final Scouting Report: NO FUN!

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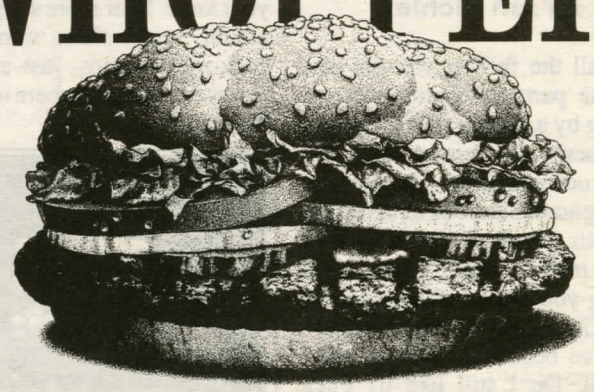

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BURGER KING

# There's One helluva Racket on This Porch

by Jon Richler

Every once and a while, it's pleasant to come across a band who leaves attitude at the door before soundcheck. The other times, it supplies hours of entertainment, however you want it served up. Recall the names **Primus**, **Samiam**, and **Today's The Day**. Even if no bells start a'ringing, picture heavy noise rock, intertwined with the free, musical rambles we so crave (and loud at that), shooting out at random, with a **Mule**-like kick. Witness **Porch**, the new power trio on the stands. The culmination of punk, noise, power-funk, and abstract madness, minus all that Mr. Rock n Roll pretention. This is the time listeners get to hear Ex-Primus guitarist/vocalist **Todd Huth** go rank on his guitars like **Les Claypool** never let him do. Unlike Primus, the guitars do not play second fiddle to the rhythm-driven bass this time around. They're as equal as a mirror match in Mortal Kombat. And that's just his point.

**"Porch is more of a band, more out front. There is no *one* person to be absorbed by the audience,** while the rest take side stage. Having no one star is more fun."

Huth believes in the syncronicity of Porch, and has a difficult time with music journalists who make a point of comparing Porch to their diverse past groups.

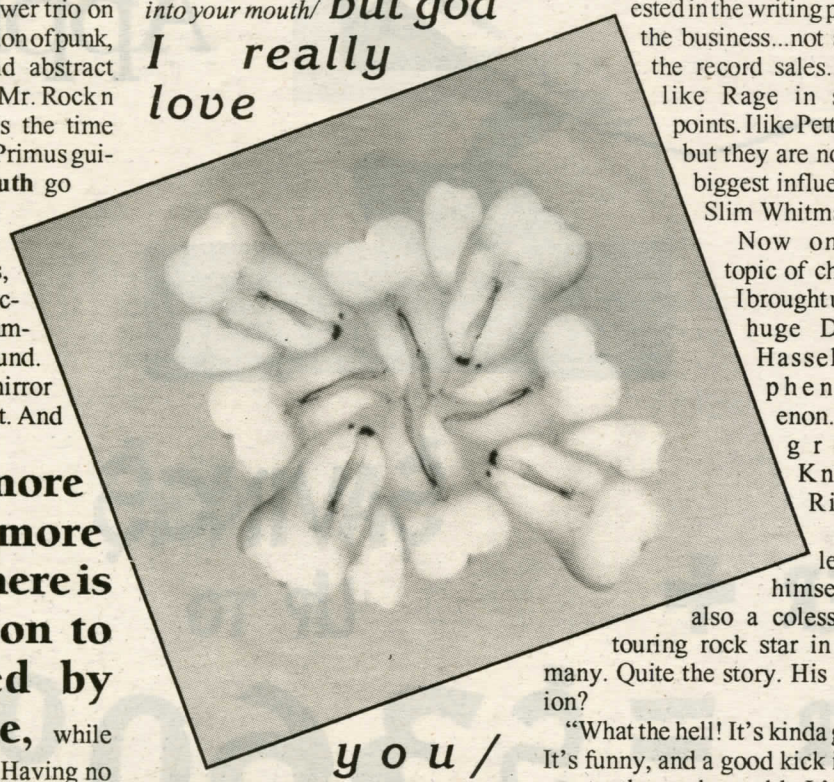
"I think I don't mind them very much. It's the critics I don't like. Often I can't see where they're coming from. To tell the truth, I don't read much of the stuff. It kinda jades me. They often misrepresent what you're trying to do. Like when they compare us to Primus, or whatever. Les is not a part of Porch's writing. It's cool to be compared, but it is misleading. "

According to Huth, the band is happy where they are, as far as influences go. Pop culture may have a big influence among the younger to mid-30's crowd, but Huth ascribes to his own culture. No renaissance, no pop.

"I don't do either one and I don't *don't* do either one," he confessed, "There's a lotta stuff out there that I like. Like the Happy Days thing. But as the band goes, we don't look too deep into that stuff, no deep grass flowing through my bare feet shit."

No. Instead he goes deeper in other ways:

"*droop lipped shove your teeth into your mouth/* ***but god I really love you/ tie my dick around my neck till it snaps****/ would be better than you piercing my ears with your spoiled brat needs/ taking up my time when I could be doing something financially easier...*"



Just an excerpt from the rampage track *Bum Holy*. (Somthing about this song...) When asked if it was a love song, the response was that I was the first to tab it correctly. He was happy to inform it was not written masochistically, or at all mysoginist.

"...it's full of that love hate thing. She's great, and this is as close as I've ever come to writing a love song."

On the serious side, Proch stand firm in their sound. It's the tunes that take priority, and they feel apathetic towards formula bands, who make millions through a steady format sound, such as Snoop Dogg, Rage Against The Machine, and even Tom Petty.

"I don't think much about it. It's not what we wanna do: pump out a buncha shit. Us, we're not interested in the writing part of the business...not about the record sales. I do like Rage in some points. I like Petty too, but they are not my biggest influences. Slim Whitman is.

Now on the topic of cheese, I brought up the huge David Hasselhoff phenomenon. The great Knight Rider legend himself, is also a colesseum-touring rock star in Germany. Quite the story. His opinion?

"What the hell! It's kinda great. It's funny, and a good kick in the ass to the rock world. It's just more flip-in-the-air hair and the twirling of drumsticks. Why not? Chris likes the bassist from the Bee Gees, and David's big on the drummer from ABBA. **I also believe Engelbert Humperdink is an archive in our time, and Tom Jones is Elvis-like in status.**"

With name dropping like that, it was no surprise to hear him praise the likes of the lounge music comeback.

"Great stuff. I like just about anything."

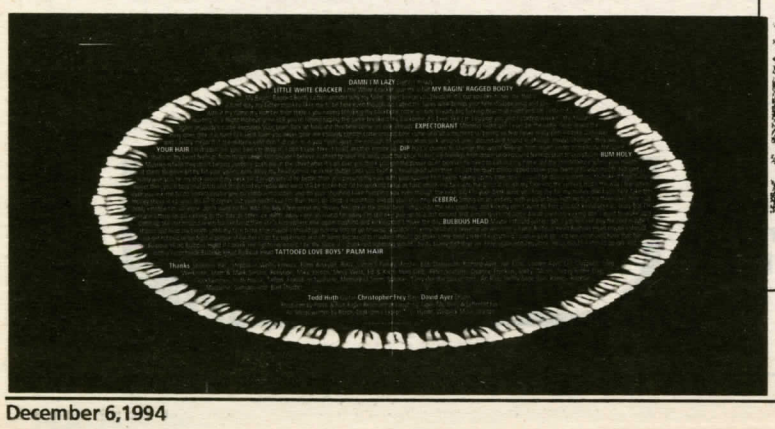
Proof is in the pudding, and the last track on the album, *Hairy Palm*, is very loungy. In its' finalé, there's a **Yes** tribute, playing the harmonics and the first bars of *Roundabout*.

"It's a joke thing," he laughed, "we just turned on the amps, pressed record, and what we got was a great jam. We hit harmonics at the end, and I just thought of *Roundabout*, and out it came."

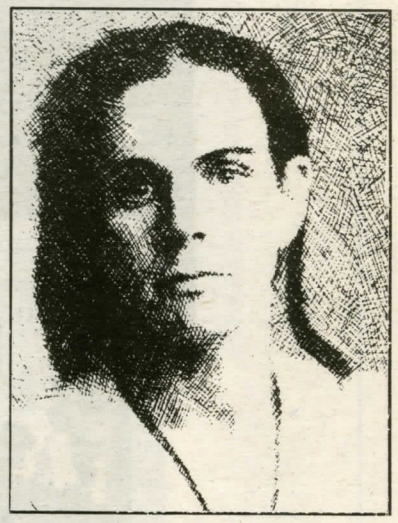
The main theme of Porch's lyrics is mockery and mayhem, whereas the music makes it all the more an aggressive fun-pack. Porch have a space in the new frontier of the mid-90's sound, but don't seem to care. That, simply, is their charm.

*Catch Porch this Wednesday night at Foufounes Electriques, 8:30PM.*

Boy these guys look great. Boy they're really Groovy




## *Yet another spin...*



**CHRIS CONNELLY**
*SHIPWRECK*
Wax Trax/TVT

**by Jon Richler**

One thing many fans and lookers-on of industrial music fail to comprehend is that industrial artists are not just that. Industrial has come a long way through the years, and has absorbed many influences along the way. **Chris Connelly**, of **Revolting Cocks**, **Pigface**, and **Ministry** fame, to name the more recent, has given us his third solo album.

Shipwreck, like the two before it, is coated in a sound only describable as folk-core. A subtle blend of country, with electronic beats, ominous themes reminiscent of the Goth movement, and David Bowie fermented to the current decades' sound, unlike what Bowie himself has done.

Intertwined over this is Connelly's exploratory lyrics, in which he shows the listener once again what he's really about. Not too much screaming here, but the assault takes place in the psyche, placing offerings of no less than brutal exposures of the man's soul into your sound system. There are no hidden messages within *Shipwreck*, everything is poured out for you in plain sight.

Where *Phenobarb Bambalam* lamented over his deceased girlfriend, *Shipwreck* pays homage to Cobain, River Phoenix, and the common man.

From start to finish, the songs each take on a different feel musically, progressively getting darker and heavier, just like a Bounty paper towel soaking up spilt coffee. And just like the countertop, you get a dark residue left behind. Don't wipe it up, this is the stuff you lick up with a self-satisfied sneer.

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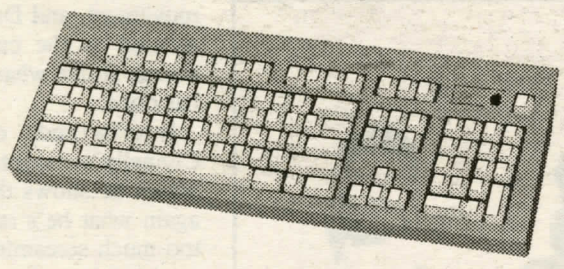

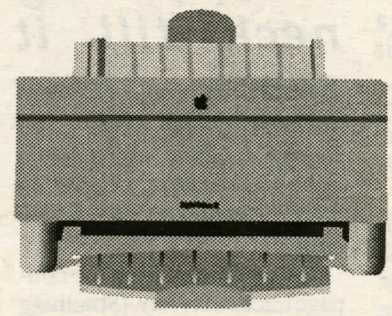

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COOP CONCORDIA

# Low on cash but high on energy

## OK THEATRE FUNDED BY WELFARE CHECKS, STUDENT LOANS

by Paul Hainsworth

*The guy in the gorilla suit steps out on stage, clears his throat, pauses for effect, and begins his monologue. But then he hesitates, fogetting his lines, and the crowd is left hanging for a few seconds in limbo.*

The audience begins to notice that his costume looks shoddy, the lighting makeshift and the set cheaply put together. Then he recovers himself, the show trundles on, and the fact that this is ultra low-budget theatre is forgotten.

But no one seems to mind, for no one here at the OK Theatre Company has any pretensions that this is flawless theatre. People come here for the same reason they watched Saturday Night Live's 'Not-Quite-Ready-For-Prime-Time-Players' in the seventies. The Tuesday matinee Phantom of the Opera geriatric bus tour crowd would probably not be interested. It's rough, it's low-budget, but it's also inexpensive, experimental, daring and challenging theatre.

Co-artistic director Michael Saurette balks at criticism that says OK is unprofessional and amateurish. He argues that OK is like an inexperienced rock band.

Bands start in small venues, rising in popularity while polishing their act. But inexperience and sloppiness does not stop them from playing for audiences. OK, he explains, is small theatre with "youthful sloppiness." But he points out that although that is acceptable in music circles, theatre remains something of an ivory tower.

"We're basically young people, and instead of playing three chords on guitar, we're playing sloppy theatre," he says. "It's the same process as in music, but you're not supposed to do that in theatre. We're doing it anyway.

"Maybe in another year or two we'll be slick enough to be 'alternative' or whatever the fuck we're supposed to be."

### Little formal training

The company has a core group of six and a stable of 25 actors, mostly without formal acting training. Saurette grudgingly admits that he's the only one with formal acting tráining.

Some have less actingexperience than others. "I was in a school play in grade four," actor Jeep says of his only acting experience. "I was a toothbrush."

But the lack of formal training doesn't seem to bother anyone in the company. And Jeep's performances in "An OK Christmas" and "The Pirandello Tryptic", which ran in November, show that he is clearly a talented natural.

"An untrained actor gives you the chance to break the rules," says Saurette, who alternates as director with his co-artistic director Steph Poch. "Some untrained actors have a freshness, not the hindrance of formalities," he adds.

Saurette explains that working with untrained actors means he must direct differently than if he had an experienced cast. "I try to find the best way to explain their character to them," he says. Often he and Poch allow the actors to improvise on stage, believing it is better to let them to negotiate their way naturally through a reality instead of blowing a scene because they failed to make one prescribed movement.

Working with untrained actors is nothing new for Saurette, who graduated five years ago with a degree in acting from the Universitiy of Winnipeg. The first show he directed was "The Shepherd's Play", a comic farce poking fun at the birth of Christ. Shown in boozecans in British Columbia, the cast was comprised of punks, playing for an audience of punks.

"I was bumming around in Vancouver doing the Gen X 'spin your wheels thing' for three years," he says. "Then I came here and we formed the OK.

Poch has directed various plays in Toronto and has a half-finished degree at Concordia. Jennifer Cressy, who directed this year's "An OK Christmas", studied in a few different programmes at Concordia before dropping out to work full-time at the OK.

### The lowest of the low-budget

Photo by Justin Rochefort

OK cast in Monty Pythonesque comic farce An OK Christmas, which runs until the 11th

With no funding from any level of government, they survive by pooling together their student loans, welfare checks, and cash from part-time jobs. Sets are built by scavenging the city for wood and everything is reused, according to Poch. After a production runs, they split the profits, if there are any. Often, there isn't very much.

"We're aware of the vague possibility out in the distance (of grants)," says Cressy.

Saurette explains that a municipal grant requires a group to be incorporated for three years, and the Canada Council requires recipients to apply for an application to apply for a grant. "The Canada Council is for people who do one play a year and spend the rest of the time planning for their next grant," says Saurette. OK was turned them down when they applied because they worded something inproperly when applying for the application.

"Even the application for the application has to be slick," he added.

What sets OK apart from the other small theatre groups in the city is they are Montreal's only small anglophone theatre company operating out of their own space.

Other small production companies, like Splinter, Bulldog, and Strange Fish rent theatre space for their shows and only produce a few times per year. Poch attempts to explain the absence of anglophone theatre groups in Montreal.

"It's because people are worried about funding," he says. He criticizes people who don't start their own groups out of fear of lack of money. "I'm not going to sit around until someone gives me a grant before doing my work," he says adamantly.

And Poch is leery about seeking funding from the Canada Council, fearing a loss of artistic control over content.

"With no funding we don't have to worry about Canadian content, some politically correct ideal, or producing plays with a national ideal to get money from the government. That's not what we're about."

Saurette says that they will try for a grant from the Council again, "but in the meantime, we've got shows to do."

Which is exactly the mentality of the OK which sets them apart from the other small theatre groups. Saurette explains that his philosophy comes from a professor at University of Winnipeg, who told his theatre students to drop out of school and just start working. "He said 'call a show, do a show'," says Saurette. Instead of waiting for funding, people should just set a deadline for when a show will run, and then figure out the script, casting and funding, explains Saurette.

"He inspired all these people around him and started a movement of people who dropped out and started doing shows," he says. "It's not very often that that happens in theatre. I looked for three years for a wave like that, then started it here."

OK formed in September last year, performing out of one troupe member's apartment above alternative "Phoenix Café" on St. Laurent Boulevard. With less than twenty seats, it offered greater intimacy than any of the mainstream stages in the city.

Increasing popularity pushed them to seek a larger space, and in September, the troupe moved to a loft down the street with about fifty seats. It only ran one show there, because the tenants above them, upset that the group had moved in, hammered into the floor and made noise constantly. After breaking their lease, they settled in their current home at 3480 St. Dominique.

### Community accessible theatre

Poch, fiercely proud of OK's artistic autonomy, becomes philosophical when explaining his artistic vision.

"We want to portray life as we see it, would like it to be, and wish it wouldn't be," he says. "We present new ideas, try to sway people's thinking, and the way they perceive things."

He prefers the grassroots level of OK as opposed to the larger stages in the city. "We're very community accessible," he says, referring to OK's audiences, mostly students and people who hang around on the Main. "We're not interested in the dry fare at the *Centaur* or the summer [fringe theatre] festival.

We try to do things that are exciting, rather than trying to fill up the house."

Poch is optimistic about OK's future. "I'm pretty sure that we'll take off," he says. "And who knows, maybe by next year we'll be able to give the actors salaries."

An OK Christmas *runs until December 11 at 8 pm. Call 982-9050 for information.*

# Profile:
# Wilson grabs gold

by Marie-Chantal Côté

When I asked coach Victor Zilberman to describe David Wilson, one of the wrestlers he trains at Concordia, one of his first thoughts was, "he's one of the most liked guys on the team."

Not your average nice guy though.

Wilson, a 6'1", 240 lbs, wrestler for Concordia, decided to start practicing the sport, at the age of 12, after hearing that wrestlers travel a lot. At the time, he wasn't very athletic and he had just quit hockey because he wasn't as good as his competitors. But Wilson was determined to wrestle because he wanted to travel.

"I never won a match until I was 15," said Wilson, who is a third-year student in English literature. "And I broke my clavicle (collar bone) in my first match."

Wilson came from the little town of Springhill, Nova Scotia, in 1992, leaving his parents and two sisters, and his little high school of 500 students because of his love for wrestling and traveling.

"I went to the nationals ever since I was 15 and I had never won until I came to Concordia," said Wilson, now 21. "That's why I came to Concordia. I decided I wanted to go to a school that met my academic and athletic requirements."

Well, it looks like Con U. actually met his requirements.

Wilson, who wrestles for both Concordia and the Montreal Wrestling Club -the umbrella club where Concordia practices- has drastically improved since his arrival, to the point where he can now easily compete with some of the best in the country in his weight category.

In his first year at Concordia, Wilson, still a junior, won the nationals in the heavy-weight category, in the Greco-Roman style.

"Thanks to Victor," added Wilson, who wanted to make sure that his coach, and the person who brought him to Concordia got the credit that he deserves.

That same year, coach Zilberman sent his young athlete to as many tournaments as possible, giving him the experience necessary to finish sixth at the CIAU nationals.

Last year, as he turned 20, Wilson switched from the junior to senior category, which meant he had to adjust to a much more competitive level. However, he still managed to win the playoffs.

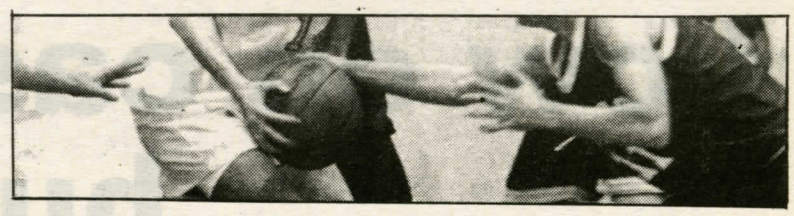
This year, Wilson has gained some experience and managed to win the gold medal in the heavy-weight category, at his last tournament at the University of New Brunswick.

"I was very well prepared," commented Wilson, who won all his matches during the tournament, which is the Eastern Canadian Wrestling Championship acting as a preview to the playoffs.

Earlier this season, Wilson also finished third at McMaster's Invitational. "It was definitely a good tournament for me," said the wrestler. "I finished third but it is the World Cup champion who won in my weight category."

But both Wilson and Zilberman agree that Wilson must keep up the hard work because, as said by Wilson's teammate Jason Della Roca, "You're only as good as your last tournament."

"As a coach you always want more from your athletes," concluded Zilberman. "Of course, you want commitment and harder work."



# Women's basketball team plays for charity

by Rob Bertrand

Sunday at Loyola, the women's basketball team did its thing to help raise money for charity.

The Stingers played host to the Gazette All-stars to help raise money for the newspaper's annual Christmas fund. The team won the game 85-62 against an opponent with a slightly unconventional strategy, if indeed they had one.

The All-Stars put up a good fight, they were within seven with 10 minutes to play, and then the Stingers blew the game open. After the game, Stingers coach Mike Hickey explained why his team took part. "Since I've been coaching, we've been trying to do things for charity. We thought this would be a good thing."

Hickey was not surprised the All-Stars did so well. "I expected that, they've got some players who at one time were really talented players.

The Stingers return to the court only on January 13, which gives them over a month to prepare. "That gives us quite a bit of time off. We'll let the players concentrate on exams. We're going to get them in the weight room a couple of times a week."

The team is winless in their first three games this season, but coach Hickey isn't worried. "We've lost the three games by a total of eight points, and we've played better each game. We just have to do a lot of basic things better.

"What we need to do, it's not just one thing. Sometimes we don't shoot the ball well, sometimes we don't play good defence."

Hickey said that everything is going as he expected, except in the win-loss column. "That's the one place that has surprised me. We're a team that has to have the whole team playing well. I'm concerned, but I'm confident we can come back. We're a strong team."

*Stingers basketball returns to Loyola January 13, when Concordia plays host to Bishop's.*

**The sports crew wishes all a happy holiday season.**

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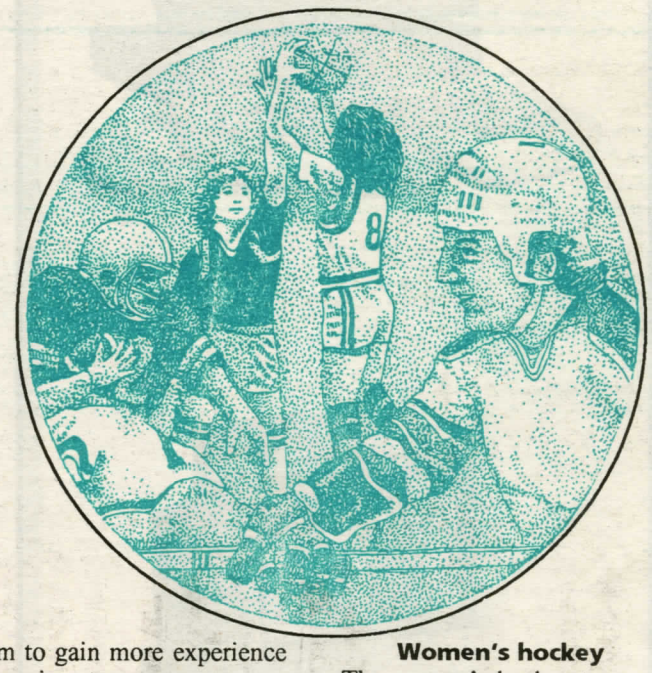
The women's hockey team defeated Toronto, last Sunday, at Loyola, 7-3.

# Stingers in action over the holidays

by Marie-Chantal Côté

During the holiday season, while we are recuperating from this semester's hard work, student athletes will be continuing their activities as most teams have organized a series of non-conference games in order to keep players in shape and for them to gain more experience against various teams.



**Men's basketball**

The Men's basketball team will travel to Halifax, where they will want to go back at the end of the season, for the Hall of Fame Classic which will take place from December 29 to the 31. They will also prepare for the Golden Ball tournament in Saint John, where they will play January 6 and 7.

**Women's basketball**

During that time the Women's team will travel to St-Mary's University, where it will play in their home tournament, December 30 and 31. They will also prepare for a tournament: at McGill, From January 5 to 7.

**Men's hockey**

The Men's hockey team has the chance to travel to the Czech Republic where it will tour from december 29 to January 12.

**Women's hockey**

The women's hockey team will be meeting with the Concordia staff, on December 11, at Loyola. Three days later, it will visit Centennial, where it will play at 7 p.m. Finally, the Stingers will host Dartmouth on January 3 and will play in the Quebec City tournament taking place from January 6 to 8.

**Wrestling**

The wrestling team will participate in the New York A.C. Invitational tournament on December 19.

# Volleyball team suffers another loss

by Rob Bertrand

There could be a lot worse time to have a vacation. The women's volleyball team suffered another loss, this time on the road against McGill, by a score of 15-6, 15-10, 15-11.

"We were not prepared to play the match," said Stingers coach Melanie Sanford after Sunday's match. "We made mental errors that there's no way that at this time of the year you should be making. We had chances in the second and third games, but we just didn't follow through."

"There's a lot of frustration right now," said co-captain Natalie Müller, who was consistent throughout the match. "We were trying to bring people up, but it just didn't work.

"I'm just really disappointed. I was looking at this game as a rematch of our last game," referring to the team's loss at home November 23. "I wanted to win this one."

"I tried to take some leadership on court, like Melanie told us to. I don't know how that came off. Personally, I felt satisfied with how I played."

The team will not play again until the new year. The players are preparing for their exams. They'll be taking a couple of weeks off from practicing on their skills. Sanford has got them on an aerobics and weight training program.

The team has had its problems so far this season, which is now at the half-way mark. The team has shown its potential at times, but mental errors are still a big concern. It is a team with a lot of young players who are still trying to learn how to work together.

Müller sees the vacation as a chance for her teammates to take time out and decide their goals. "I hope they think about it over Christmas, what is it they want out of the game."

*The Stingers will retake the court again on January 9th, when they play host to Laval.*

## STANDINGS

as of December 5, 1994

**Women's basketball**

| Team | GP | W | L | PF | PA | PTS |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1. Laval | 3 | 3 | 0 | 179 | 139 | 6 |
| 2. McGill | 3 | 2 | 1 | 189 | 166 | 4 |
| 3. Bishop's 3 | 1 | 2 | 143 | 197 | 2 | |
| **4. Concordia** | **3** | **0** | **3** | **177** | **186** | **0** |

**Men's Basketball**

| Team | GP | W | L | PF | PA | PTS |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **1. Concordia** | **3** | **3** | **0** | **240** | **200** | **6** |
| 2. Bishop's 3 | 2 | 1 | 220 | 203 | 4 | |
| 3. McGill | 3 | 1 | 2 | 208 | 206 | 2 |
| 4. Laval | 3 | 0 | 3 | 193 | 252 | 0 |

**Men's Hockey**

| Team | GP | W | L | T | PF | PA | PTS |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1. U.Q.T.R. | 11 | 8 | 0 | 3 | 59 | 32 | 19 |
| **2. Concordia** | **12** | **7** | **3** | **2** | **43** | **42** | **16** |
| 3. Ottawa | 10 | 5 | 3 | 2 | 41 | 27 | 12 |
| 4. McGill | 12 | 5 | 6 | 1 | 53 | 47 | 11 |

**Women's Volleyball**

| Team | GP | WM | LM | PF | PA | PTS |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1. Laval | 8 | 7 | 1 | 361 | 213 | 14 |
| 2. McGill | 8 | 4 | 4 | 324 | 378 | 8 |
| 3. Sherbrooke | 6 | 3 | 3 | 271 | 231 | 6 |
| **4. Concordia** | **6** | **0** | **6** | **176** | **310** | **0** |

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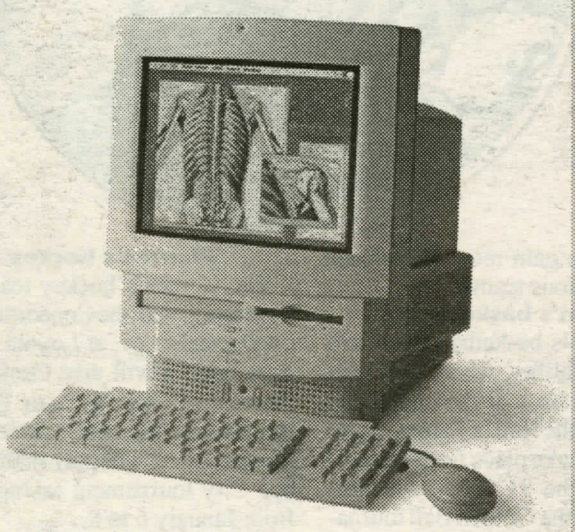

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